

**JUNK MAIL IS** GOOD FOR YOU

Hamish McRae defends a boost for democracy

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No 3,537 Wednesay 18 February 1998 45p

# Tax breaks for working mothers: our campaign begins

By Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

TODAY The Independent is calling oo Gordon Brown to make a genuine investment in the nation's children in next month's Budget by helping their parents to afford highquality childcare.

The Chancellor has already signalled that he will make some improvements to government provision for childcare, mainly for lone pareots, but it does not go far enough. We argue that a childcare tax alimprove the lives of many working mothers and encourage others hack to work.

Affordable and quality childcare is the main barrier preventing women from going back to work. Nearly a third of mothers have said they are discouraged from returning to work after childbirth because of its expense.

The Government has emphasised the importance of setting the right priorities in tax and spending, and will publish a comprehensive review later this year. Yet we give tax relief lowance of £1,800 a year would to drivers who use their car for

work, a tax allowance to married couples and the "bricks and mortar" subsidy of mortgage in-

terest tax relief. But there is almost no help for parents who have, on aver-

age, to pay £6,000 a year out of after-tax income for childcare more than they spend on housing or food. The allowance we propose would cost the Government less than the tax sub-

#### A challenge to Mr Brown

Without working women, many of them mothers, the world economy would collapse. A increasing slice of global household income depends on women's efforts outside the home. In most West ern countries, "family" means an incessant struggle to balance work home and children, in which most of the burden - still, whatev er the alleged changes in men's role and sensibilities - falls on women. It is time that this was recognised by the Government and acted Leading article page 18 sidy to homebuyers. There is less state help with childcare costs in Britain than almost any other leading economy. The main help is through family credit, available to very few families.

While in France local authorities and employers share costs and io Sweden public funds supply the main source of money, in the UK more than 90 per cent of formal child care is paid for by parents themselves.

As a result, lone mothers in the UK have one of the lowest employment rates in Europe. While 41 per cent are employed in Britain, double that

perceotage are in work in France. In the Budget, the Chancellor is expected to make the childcare element of Family Credit more generous, and available to more families. This will lower a significant barrier to work for many women, es-

pecially single mothers. But we helieve targeting childcare help at only the very low-paid ignores the same cost for millions of others. While the need is greater for the least welloff, there is an overwhelming case for additional government support for childcare.

Parents are ready and will-

ing to work but often cannot because they can't afford childcare," says Colette Kelleher, director of the Daycare Trust. IDENT

Y 1998

With women expected to account for 1.1 million of the increase of 1.5 million in the labour force by 2006, the issue will become even more pressing. Add your support to our campaign. Write to Glenda Cooper, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Loodoo E14 1DL or fax us on 0171 293 2143 or e-mail gcooper@independent.co.uk

Question of priorities, page 5 Leading article, page 18

# First cracks in anti-Iraq alliance

By Anthony Bevins and Fran Abrams

A RIFT between Robin Cook Council was required - a legal and the Foreign Office over view backed by Lord Mayhew, Iran vesterday exposed deep problems between Britain and the United States over the authority for air strikes.

Mr Cook told the Commons that military action would require United Nations approval. But that clashed directly with the line from Washington. Downing Street and even his own department - all of which were more gung-ho.

Because Saddam Hussein is already in breach of the UN Gulf War ceasefire resolution, requiring the dismantling of his weapons of mass destruction. the Washington view is that oo further UN blessing is needed for military strikes.

Opening the first Commons debate on the crisis, Mr Cook told Tony Benn - a leading Labour opponent of military action - that it would be "prudent" to get a further UN resolution. The Foreign Secretary then told Michael Colvin. Conservative MP, that existng UN resolutions "give rise to logical interpretation" that orce was already authorised.

"Having said that," Mr Cook added, "our own view is very strong, that there should be a further Security Council resolution to demonstrate to Saddam and to the resr of the vorld that any action that is taken by the United States and the United Kingdom is action that has the support of an interna-

tional consensus." While the Foreign Secretary was saying a resolution of the UN Security Tory Attorney- General during the 1991 conflict, in a parallel Lords debate - an official Foreign Office spokesman told The Independent yesterday that a resolution would be "desirable". He repeatedly refused to take the opportunity to back the Foreign Secretary's line - saying he would not "unsay" what

Mr Cook had told the House. The Independent has been told by a senior government source that while Mr Cook wants President Saddam to hack down, and he recognises the value of a military reinforcement for diplomatic negotiation, he is more reluctant than his own department, the Prime Minister and President Clinton to resort to air strikes - which are most unlikely to win

Security Council hacking. Agreeing that there was a difference between Mr Cook's position and the view from Washington, the Prime Minister's spokesman said yesterday that while Britain stood "shoulder-to-shoulder with the United States ... there is a difference

of interpretation, possibly." In his Commons speech, Mr Cook also warned that in the remote event of an Iraqi chemical or hiological attack on Britain, "there would be a proportionate response". However, he told MPs only last week that there was no question of a nuclear strike against Iraq.

The Government faced repeated protests from the Labour benches during last night's debate. Fourteen Labour MPs put their names to an amendment calling for sanctions to be lifted and for no military action without Security Council support.

The Labour rebels were led by Mr Benn, a former Cabinet Minister, and Tam Dalyell, MP for Linlithgow. Mr Benn said the Government was asking MPs to share responsibility for action which it knew would be taken without the authority of the UN Security Council.

He told Mr Cook that the Russians and Chinese would not vote for the use of force. "So why involve the House of Commons io an act that would run contrary to what the Security Council would do?"

It was now inevitable that there would be another war in the Gulf, he added. "That huge fleet is not in the Gulf waiting to be withdrawn when Saddam gives a friendly noise to Kofi Annan [the UN Secretary-Gen-

Backing the Government in a rare Commons interventioo, Joho Major, who was Prime Minister at the time of the Gulf War, asked: "What would this House say to itself and say to history if we knew that now we had an opportunity to take action and we chose not to? I don't suggest this is an easy option. The Government have no easy option here, and they deserve our support for the decisions they have to take." Question of War, page 12

to women drinking more By Jeremy Laurance

An increase in women's drinking may account for the rapid rise in breast cancer which has claimed 300,000 lives in the last 20 years, researchers said yes-

A review of six studies shows that women who have between two and a half and six alcoholic drinks a day increase their risk of breast cancer by over 40 per cent. A drink is counted as half a pint of beer, a glass of wine or a tot of spirits. The finding is in line with previous

research. However, doctors say moderate drinking is still good for most women because it cuts the

risk of heart disease. Women are 10 times more likely to die of heart disease than hreast cancer in old age, and over twice as likely in middle age, so the protective effect of alcohol on the heart is more important for most women than its damaging

Rise in breast cancer linked

effect on the breast. The latest review of the link between alcohol and hreast cancer, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, examined six studies in Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden and the US. The total of 322,000 womeo were monitored for 11 years, and 4,300 de-

veloped the disease. Breast cancer deaths in Britain rose by 20 per ceot between the 1960s and the late

1980s to 16,000 a year, one of the highest rates in the world. Professor Richard Peto, a cancer epidemiologist at Oxford University, said: "There is no doubt that alcohol does in-

Cricket heroes: Dean Headley (left), Angus Fraser and Mark Butcher celebrate yesterday. Full report, page 28 Photograph: Laurence Griffiths/Alisport

crease the risk of breast cancer developing and it must be partly responsible for the rise in deaths from the 1960s to the 1980s. The question is what is the oet effect of moderate drinking [after taking account of its effect on heart disease]? In old age it is massively favourable and in middle age it is probably moderately favourable."

Since the late 1980s, breast cancer deaths have fallen sharply, to around 14,000 a year, chiefly as a result of the the hormocal drug Tamoxifen.

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# Real Olympians do it with a CD wrapper

war reporters

Award for women

THE INDEPENDENT and The Independent on Sunday are to launch the Martha Gellhorn award for women war reporters, in memory of the celebrated journalist who died at the weekend, aged 89. Miss Gellhorn began her career as a war reporter during the Spanish Civil War and continued reporting the horrors from the frontline of many of this century's bloodiest conflicts, including the Second World War, the Middla East and Vietnam.

The award, which is open to women covering wars for British publications, will commemorate Miss Gellhom's passion and objectivity. Her own words set the standard for the prize: the journalist's duty, she said, was to "limit yourself to what you see or hear, and not suppress or invent"; nor could she shide "all that objectivity shit". War reporting, for her, was about writing which evokes the plight of the victim of war and the ordinary soldier, not the general or the politician, back home in a smoke-filled room. Further details of the award will be published soon in The Independent and The Independent on Sunday.

By Paul McCann Media Correspondent

PEELING the fiddly shrinkwrap from the CD cover, trying to park a car in a tight space -

this is the "real" Olympics. Last night, on US television, while sports fans - not enough. according to the ratings - tuned into the Nagano Winter Olympics, on the other side two comedy producers presented their proposal for a sporting fest more in keeping with ordinary people's lives.

While purists are gnashing

ballroom dancing and snooker in the Olympics, the duo introduced "The Disk", a race to remove a CD wrapper and "Tab and Tip", a contest to share out a restaurant hill based on six people all eating different items and leaving a tip.

"The 1998 alt.games" was held in a Brooklyn street and had its own mascot, loky the Giant Rat. The competition was tailor-made for New York, hut future gold medallist in at least one event must surely come from the crowded streets of Britain. The "Parallel Parking in touch with ordinary people

squeeze their cars into a tight space between two alarmed cars. Not only had each couple to try to park first without setting off the alarms, but presumably they had to do so without the non-driving partner getting a smack in the mouth for giving unwanted advice.

CBS television paid millions for the Nagano games - getting the lowest ratings for any Olympic event since 1968. Americans are voting with their remote cootrols; heoce the need to offer something more their teeth over plans to include Pairs" involved couples racing to than snow-clad mouotains and

us." said Tad Lowe, creator of the alt.games for United Paramount oetwork. "The Winter Olympics are no longer relevant to our everyday lives. Look at the biathlon. Have you ever met a guy on skis with a shotgun on his back in your normal life?"

Lycra-clad skiers. "We want to

celebrate the Olympian in all of

INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 . CROSSWORDS, P28 AND EYE P10 . TODAY'S TELEVISION, EYE P12 . FULL CONTENTS, P2

# Sinn Fein fights over expulsion

Alan Murdoch in Dublin Castle

ANOTHER full day of discussions in Duhlin Castle vesterday failed to resolve the impasse over Sinn Fein's expulsion from the multi-party talks, after last week's two killings which were attributed to the IRA.

Talks scheduled to discuss Northern Ireland's future govhave Sinn Fein suspended, and that party's attempts to resist

As brief meetings were interspersed with long adjournments, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator. Martin McGuinlegal advice and we are strongindictment. We ourselves have not made up our mind to take legal action. On the contrary we are reluctant to do so. We want to fight this indictment politically.

While the temporary expulsion remains the most likely outcome, the republicans have extracted maximum advantage from the proceedings. They the RUC chief constable's adhave held centre stage and broadened the debate beyond the two Belfast killings, publicly and forcefully pressing arguments against their expulsion, and winning some hacking

among nationalists. In doing so, they have spread doubts over whether the IRA to answer.

committed the killings. But meanwhile in Belfast, in what was seen as a significant move, the three men who have been charged with one of the two killings at the centre of the dispute over exclusion from the talks, were accepted by IRA commanders into a Maze prison H block which is exclusively reserved for IRA members.

Some Irish voices say that while the IRA may be responernance were again occupied in-stead with British efforts to sible for these killings, loyalist violence has been on an even greater scale, and that the peace process would be better served by allowing Sinn Fein to remain.

While it is scarcely conceivable that the Irish government could diverge from the British ness. said: "We are examining position, Dublin is being careful to cover itself against critily advised that there are legal cism that it is relying too heavily grounds to challenge the British on the word of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, a force much criticised by nationalists.

The Irish Prime Minister. Bertie Ahern, has already said he received personal assurances from his British counterpart. Tony Blair, on the strength of the evidence.

Yesterday in the Dail, Mr Ahern prepared to row in with vice. He said police chiefs south of the border had consulted the RUC on the evidence relating to the Campbell and Dougan murders. He said while the Gardai were not involved in any scientific analysis, they had been satisfied there was a case



Regal departure: The Queen Mother leaving King Edward VII Hospital in central London esterday three weeks after an operation to replace her left hip. Photograph: Andrew Buurman

## Report boost for cannabis

By Charles Arthur Science Editor

Research has established that decriminalising marijuana does not lead to the use of harder drugs such as cocaine and heroin, and that teenagers and children are more likely to experiment with alcohol and tobacco.

Long-running surveys carried out in the Netherlands. where marijuana was decriminalised in 1967, have found that even in the age group where cannabis use is highestthose between 20 and 35, of whom 12.5 per cent are "regular" users - only 1.5 per cent had used cocaine in the previous month, with the majority of those being aged over 30.

The latest sample of more than 2000 people in 1994 found that nobody under 20 had ever used heroin, and there were just four people who "regularly" used heroin, all aged between 25 and 50. Cocaine and beroin use are not legal in the Netherlands.

The findings, from ongoing surveys carried out over the past 10 years by the Centre for Drug Research at the University of Amsterdam among the city's residents, provide more ammmition for the Independent on Sunday's campaign to decriminalise cannabis in Britain.

It also shows that the Government's insistence that decriminalising the drug would be a catastrophe does not stand up to close examination.

A leading scientific magazine expected tomorrow to publish further research which indicates that cannabis has fewer health effects than other legal drugs such as tobacco.

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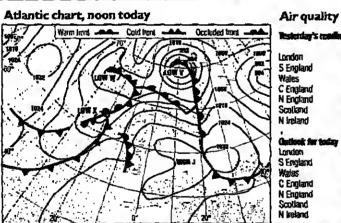
THE EYE SEAN HUGHES, BERYL BAINBRIDGE, **NEIL PEARSON** 

#### WEATHER



Noon today Northern tretand and western Scotland will be overcast with light drizzle, turning to steadier rain in places during the alternoon. After a bright start, Wales will see spots of rain and drizzle, mainly towards . coasts and over the hills. Eastern Scotland and northeast England will be bright and quite warm with spell's ol sunshine. Across the rest of England and Wales early log will slowly clear to leave decent spells of sunshine. It will stay mild for February with the day's highest temperatures likely in eastern Scotland.

Outlook for the next few day The weather will remain mild for the time of the year in all parts on Thursday. There will be rain in north-west Scotland and a little drizzle turning up in some western parts, but the east and south will be dry with some sunshine trying to break through the cloud. It will become windy on Friday with gates in many parts. Pain will spread eastwards across the country during the day, clearing to tresher weather for Saturday with



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## MICHAEL HANLON WEATHER WISE

anything at all that they dislike about living in Britain, even the most fervent and narrow-minded patriot usually mumbles something about the "terrible weather" and admits grudgingly that while the food may be garlicky and the plumbing suspect, the climate found "abroad" is far superior.

Which is odd, because the British Isles have some of the best weather in the world. I believe it was Winston Churchill who once remarked that our green and pleasant land was a great place, because it was possible to do something out of doors every day of the year. Rarely is it too cold. The lowest recorded temperature stands at a mere -29.2C, a point on the thermometer that

CONTENTS

Foreign

Fashion

**Obituaries** 

Features Leader & letters 'putting them back in the drawer for fear of being thought a big girl's blouski. Rarely it is too hot, and it rains, by and large, just the right amount. Hurricanes. lornadoes and other nastinesses are almost unheard

talk about it all the time and de- 1983, almost beggars belief. columns to it. Britain has very little heavy-duty weather at all eyeballs starts to crystallise --just a climate that may be fairly described as "Pleasant Sub-Ideal" (If you want perfection, try the Canary Islands or San. Diego - which, according to a recent American quality-of-life index, have the most pleasant climates on the planet).

It is all because of the Gulf Stream - or more accurately, the North Atlantic Drift. This tepid current sweeps warm and damp air from the sub-tropical Atlantic, mitigating the effects of our northerly latitude. Between 50 and 60 degrees north, the latitude of the British Isles, most of the planet has a very different climate. Newfoundland, central Canada and a swathe of Siberia lie in this belt, and all would have an average Russian have pigs of a climate, with

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Crosswords

Sport

reaching for his gloves, then sweaty, mosquito-ridden summers and freeze-your-evelidsshut winters.

But if we have (almost) the best weather, who has the worst? It is hard to find a rival for Antarctica. The whole continent is a giant deep freeze. The record low, -89.2C Despite the fact that we on the Vostock Plateau in July WHEN ASKED if there is vote whole daily newspaper Not only do your eyelids freeze shut, but the letty inside your a most unpleasant experience, according to polar explorers and scientists.

min

One place that sells itself on its intemperate clime is the top of Mount Washington in New Hampshire. The visitors' centre at the summit proudly proclaims this place as having "The Worst Weather In The World!". In 1934 a wind speed of 231mph was recorded at the summit. Temperatures plummet to -30C. It rains incessantly, it snows, it is frosty. Strangely though, when I went there it was a pleasant 21C, with a light breeze and cheery sunshine. I felt like asking for my money hack. Maybe the gods knew an Englishman was



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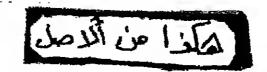
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# Row over benefit for young musicians

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BUDDING musicians' right to draw benefit while living in hedsits and playing hopeless gigs in half-empty pubs was at the centre of a political row last night.

Andrew Smith, the employment minister, was rebuffed after inviting the director of Creation Records in discuss the finer points of musical development and the drop-out culture over a coffee. Alan McGee, who had been complaining that Welfare to Work would stifle creativity, replied that he would not be prepared to take part in such a "sop to the media" unless his demands for leniency towards the nation's youth were met.

Mr McGee, who is a member of the Government's Creative Industries Task Force, was not impressed by Mr Smith's approach.

"I am, not to put too fine a point on it, pissed off with what I consider to be this ill-judged, unfair and draconian Workfare initiative. I urge the welcomed the help. The music in-Government to take a long, hard look at the issue again and in find ... fairhy paid jobs without penalising the around strumming a guitar. A group lifeblood of our cultural future," he of young people who met the Prime said in a statement. Furthermore, he Minister in Sheffield earlier this would only meet Mr Smith if he was munth were now on courses at the prepared to tell him "exactly how mu-

Both Mr McGee and Wayne Hemmingway, founder of the Red nr Dead fashion company, have recently criticised the Blair administration's lack of support for youth culture. Earfler this week. Mr Hemmingway backed Mr McGee, saying in a radin interview that budding young musicians should be allowed to continue the tradition of developing their creativity while claiming benefit, because the nation would eventually be rewarded with export earnings when

they became successful. Mr Smith claimed he had the answers, though. Future Sid Viciouses and Billy Idols would do just as well on a Government training programme, he suggested. In fact, the New Deal had already

helped one young man to find an agent and a singer to front his band. It had also sent him to the Business Education Centre "for further advice and assistance on self-employment."

Mr Smith said modern youngsters dustry was increasingly high-tech and there was far more in it than sitting



Jarvis Cocker and (below) Liam Gallagher both depended on benefits on their way to rock stardom

#### sicians are not going to be forced into were learning about programming jobs that they don't want to do". and sampling. Dole-queue blues that gave Britpop its soul

By David Lister Arts News Editor

Britpop certainly began as Dolepop. Many of the songs that have epitomised the most creative period in rock music for over 20 years were written or worked on by musicians out of work and usually claiming benefit.

Oasis, Pulp and the Verve, three of the biggest-selling bands, whose albums and singles have won both critical and popular acclaim, created songs that were to become anthems before they landed a proper job. Jarvis Cocker, lead singer and songwriter with Pulp, only signed off in 1993, even though he had been gigging and recording for some years.

Liam Gallagher of Oasis was on social security for years before hitting the big time, as were other members of the band. Liam went to a Restart interview and told the DSS official he wanted to be a rock star. When the official told him that was not possible, he said he would settle for a lumber jack instead, before terminating the conversa-

work. But his songs, which appeared on Oa-lucky." sis's first album Definitely Maybe were worked on and rehearsed while the rest of the band were on the dole.

The Verve's songwriter and frontman Richard Ashcroft spent two years, 1995 and 1996, drifting and writing songs. Those songs were later to appear on their Brit Award-winning album Urban Hymns, And two of them, "The Drugs Don't Work" and "Bitter Sweet Symphony" were huge hits as singles. "Richard needed that exodus period," a spokesman for the band said yesterday. "He was able to concentrate on writing the songs."

scheme: "It's going to make it impossible efit claim form, UB40.

tion. His songwriter brother Noel was in to live, let alone he in a band. I guess I was

Five years on the dole is far from being a record. Mark Ashton, lead singer of the band Addict, which signed to the record company V2 last year for £100,000, was on the dole for eight years. He said recently: "It was vital for me - for us - to have that facility so we could put 100 per cent into our music." Most art forms, of course, have a close association with benefit. Actors often suffer periods of unemployment just before striking stardom and have protested about plans to tighten up on them being allowed to claim benefits while "resting".

But rock has its own DSS hall of fame. Portishead, the former Brit Award win- Mick Hucknall, the lead singer of Simply ners, actually met up on a back-to-work Red, is another superstar and New Labour scheme. Chumbawumba -- John Prescott's supporter who collected dole money while least favourite hand and now also Brit learning his craft, But if proof were need-Award winners - also wrote songs while on ed that some of the higgest names in muthe dole. Pete Vukovitz, lead singer of Three sic start on the dole, it is that one of the Colours Red, signed to Alan McGee's Cre-biggest selling bands of the Eighties named ation label, who was on the dole for five themselves in homage to a piece of paper years, says of the Government's new they knew well - the unemployment ben-



# Howard's son is accused of 'spiritual Nazism'

By Clare Gamer

Nick Howard, son of Michael Howard, the shadow Foreign Secretary, has been accused of "spiritual Nazism" because of his support of efforts to introduce Jewish undergraduates at Oxford University to Christianity.

Nick Howard, 21, who was raised as a Jew but became an evangelical Christian at the age of 15, recently helped organise a university Christian Union meeting which expressly targeted Jews. Union members were urged to bring along their Jew- At odds: Nick Howard (above) ish friends, and kosher food was

Mr Howard jnr - whose father is a practising member of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in St John's Wood, north London - explained his mission: "As Christians it is our duty to reach Jews, who are the priority in our evangelism. It is a process of . reasoning, persuading them to be-come Christians, Christianity is fulfilled Judaism."

Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, executive director of the L'Chaim Society, a Jewish-based organisation, was so incensed by the young man's proselytising activities that he challenged him to a public debate. The motion "Was Jesus the Jewish Messiah? Is it right that young Jews away from home should be specifically targeted by 'spiritual Nazis' as prime candidates for Christianity?" will be debated in Oxford tonight.

Rabbi Boteach said: "I thought derstanding and respect, not the age of spiritual Nazism whereby one faith is promoted as being superior to another or where the adherents of an ancient people are targeted for conversion by small-minded bigots."

A memo circulated by the Christian Union after its evangelical meeting congratulated members on the number of Jews who attended. Of the 57 students present, about half were Jewish. The memo stated: "Jewish undergraduates formed a good share - and so our aim of one. Yes, I've been along to the synspreading the gospel to this community is being brought to fruition

... The Jews there heard that Jesus is their Messiah: the suffering ser-



and Rabbi Shmuley Boteach



Mr Howard jnr, a third-year English literature undergraduate at St Catherine's college, Oxford, hit the headlines in 1995 when an article he had written for the Evening Standard explaining why he could not vote for Tony Blair was accidentalwe were in the age of mutual un-Gould, the former Labour shadow cabinet member.

Raised as a Jew, he turned to Christianity at Eton, He was baptised at a Christian summer camp and now describes himself as: "A Jewish believer in Jesus". He explained: "Jesus himself was Jewish and all of the first Christians were Jewish." He added that he feels "much more Jewish" now that be has found Jesus. Asked whether he now observed Jewish rites, he said: "That's a tricky agogue since becoming a Christian and we've had Passover together."

Of his latest evangelical mission, he said: "I wonder what my grandvant, high priest and ruling king, who alone can bring them to the Faith."

mother is going to say. She's Jewish. She will probably be very hurt."

# Shipwreck ends couple's round-the-world dream

By Stephen Goodwin

A British couple, plucked from a storm-lashed rock after heing shipwrecked in the Southern Ocean, were yesterday struggling to come terms with the consequences of their ordeal - lucky in be alive but a dream of sailing round the world shattered.

"Everything we have had for the past two-and-a-half years is now at the hottom of the ocean," said Doreen Cheek, recovering in Hubart, Tasmania. "All our photographs, clothes, gifts for our family - everything. It's all just gone forever." A few hours earlier mater-

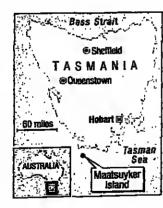
ial considerations were not a priority. Peter and Doreen Cheek's 39-foot yacht Tulis II was being battered by 100 mph winds and huge waves against rocks off Maatsuyker Island, IS miles south of Tasmania,

Half way through a five-year round-the-world voyage, the couple, from the Isle of Wight, had anchored off the main island intending to go ashore and film sea lions and seals. But the wind changed and started to blow on shore, dragging the vacht's two anchors across the sea-bed.

It was dark, and by the time the Cheeks realised their predicament their 20-year old sloop was against the rocks.

"We knew that was the end of the yacht because of this great rock we were just humping up on and rolling from side to side. I expected the boat to just cave in," Mr Cheek, 62, told

BBC Radio Five Live. The couple grabbed some



belongings and scramhled into a dinghy, but it was crushed be-

tween the yacht and the rock. We both went under and came up. I grabbed hold of some kelp and pulled myself up on to the rocks and my wife hung on to my foot. I managed to pull her up as well and

we got ont." But the ordeal for Mr Cheek and his 58-year-old wife was not over. They were stranded in atrocious conditions on a rock off a harren island, noted as the home off Australia's most southerly light-

In the haste of abandoning the yacht there was time only to broadcast one brief mayday message and they feared that might have been mistaken for a joke. "We were scared no one would turn up looking for us," said Mr Cheek. "We thought we might have to end up eating seal meat."

But luckily another yacht sheltering from the storm picked up the message and an rescue was launched. An aircraft sent from Hobart was unable to spot the couple so a long-range helicopter was set



Lucky to be alive: Peter and Doreen Cheek, recovering from their ordeal in Hobart yesterday Photograph: Reuters

off from Sale on the Australian mainland. The Cheeks were eventually sighted by the lighthouse keeper. Huddled on their rock, cut off by 25 feet of deep, rough water, they had pulled grass over themselves to keep warm.

Ten hours after sending their mayday plea, the couple were lifted off by a helicopter winchman in conditions described by pilot Jim Llewellyn as the worst he had experienced for a rescue in 23 years. David Gray, of the Australian Search and Rescue Service, said the Cheeks were lucky to be alive. "No one goes down there. It's very, very wild."

The couple were flown to hospital in Hobart suffering from mild hypothermia. Mr Cheek said: "We have

worked so long and so hard on this project. It was not so much frightening, it's just so disappointing to have let this sort of thing happen."

All that was left yesterday of their dream and the yacht Mr Cheek had worked on ontside their home in East Cowes was a mast poking above the waves of a lonely ocean. They are now intending to return home to the Isle of Wight. Mr and Mrs Cheek are ex-

perienced ocean sailors and also lucky ones. In 1979, during the same storm that took lives of leading yachtsmen in the Fastnet Race, Mrs Cheek was swept off the deck of Talis II and only survived by grabbing a rope trailing overboard.

"The gods seem to be on their side," their 34-year-old daughter Sue said yesterday.



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# Child abuser got £28m in care fees

By Roger Dobson

A former hotel worker who was subsequently jailed for child abuse, was paid £28m over a period of 13 years by local authorities to look after children in care.

In one year, John Allen, who once had an office in Harley Street, drew an income uf more than £200,000 from the Bryn Alyn community homes in north Wales. His company £500,000, the North Wales child abuse tribunal hi-fi music systems.

into an allegation of abuse in 1970, two one attempt had been made to blackmail him. decades before Allen was jailed for six years for indecent assault.

Allen, 56, yesterday denied that he had given more £100,000 worth of cash and presents to residents and former residents of homes to either keep them quiet or to enable him to exploit them for his own gratification. In one case, a former resident was paid nearly also made a profit approaching £400,000 and £25,000, Gerard Elias QC told the tribunal. he ran up a director's overdraft of nearly and others were given gifts of motorbikes and

The tribunal was told that former residents The Alyn empire prospered between had written to Allen seeking money with in

The tribunal - at Caernarfon Crown Court - was told that Allen had paid for a a turnover of £2.6m in one year - children flat in Brighton for a former resident. Three people who had been in care in various parts of north Wales were among five people who died in a fire in Brighton at another property six years ago.

The Bryn Alyn empire started in 1968 when Allen acquired his first home. In subsequent years, it expanded until at one time it had 200 children and he was dealing with

But while the business boomed - it had were being abused, and in 1995 Allen was jailed for six years after being found guilty of indecent assaults on boys.

Giving evidence to the tribunal yesterday. Allen claimed that the allegations against him had been made up and that the former residents who had complaints were liars.

"You ran Bryn Alyn to exploit children for your own gratification, and to be paid sub-38 different councils. He also had properties stantial funds. The gifts were given so you in London and Gloucester, and a holiday could exploit children," Mr Elias, counsel for

1968 and 1990 despite a police in the first on some cases veiled threats. Allen admitted that home in France which some of the boys would the tribunal, said. He said Allen had placed into an alleration of above in 1976. a former resident in a flat in Brighton as another sexual contact to be exploited.

Timothy King QC, who represents a number of alleged victims of abuse, told how one boy had written to Allen after the former owner of Bryn Alyn had been arrested.

"He wanted to be assured that what had happened to him was all right. He said you had to reassure him that the things you did to him were all right. That was how you worked, wasn't it? You infiltrated through kindness, you made them your favourites, and then you ahused them."

The hearing continues.

# Lesbian rail worker loses sex-bias case

By Katherine Butler in Brussels

GAY RIGHTS campaigners suffered a major legal setback yesterday when the European Court rejected a lesbian couple's claim for equal rights in the workplace.

Radway wurker Lisa Grant and her partner Jill Percey who travelled tu Luxembourg anticipating a landmark victory for gay couples, left after the 15minute sitting, defeated and deeply despondent.

But the ruling which the ple, Ms Booth said. women described as "scandalous" came as an immense relief to the Government and employers. A decision in the couple's favour would have had huge ramifications for employment law, pensions and social security contributions. It would in effect have paved the way for equal recognition for gay couples under employment law.

Ms Grant brought her employer, South West Trains Ltd. to an industrial tribunal in Southampton after the company refused to extend travel come of other cases. Terry rights to Ms Percey, her live-in Perkins, sacked from the Navy partner. Such concessions are in 1995 for being gay, is waiting automatically granted to the for a date for the hearing of his spouses or opposite sex partners case by the European Court in Grant' male predecessor had stand little chance of success. been given travel perks for his female partner even though he

was not married to her. But the Luxembourg court. asked by the tribunal for an interpretation of EU law in the the current treaty. It contains an matter, said that the case did not anti-discrimination clause which involve sex discrimination, which is outlawed by the EU treaty. Rather it involved discrimination on the grounds of

resented Ms Grant when the this.

case was heard last year, argued that the train company's policy of denying travel passes to the partner in a same-sex couple was in breach of the equal pay principle enshrined in Article 119 of the EU treaty.

Travel benefits, considered part of the pay package, are granted to a man living with a woman but not a woman living with a woman, The denial of £1000-worth of annual tickets on the hasis of Ms Grant's partner's sex was therefore a violation of the equal pay princi-

But the court found that the company's policy would also deny travel passes to a man living with one of its male employees. "The rule could not therefore be taken as discrimination based directly on sex, since it applies in the same way to female and male workers." the court said. The ban on sex discrimination was interpreted to require equal treatment for men and women but could not be stretched beyond that.

The ruling will affect the out-

One glimmer of hope for homosexuals rests in the judges' reference to the new Amsterdam Treaty which is being ratified and will eventually replace covers sexual orientation. But its weakness, as far as campaigners are concerned, is that it confers no direct rights on insexual orientation, which is not. dividuals. New EU legislation Cherie Booth QC, who rep- would have to be enacted to do



Fowl plot: Pickets near the home of the executive at the centre of the dispute over the dismissal of Magnet Kitchens staff

## Miners flock to the aid of their old kitchen comrades

By Barrie Clement Labour Editor

have never seen anything like it. First came a rag-tag platoon of retired miners from north Derbyshire who set up camp outside the rolling acres of Croxton Park Estate. Then came the security staff, in paramilitary-style boiler-suits, who patrolled the perimeters of the ground, stopping occasionally to film the erstwhile activities of the pit-

The ex-miners were there to show solidarity with 350 strikers at Magnet Kitchens' Facto- passed largely to prevent de-

lington. The security men were women. So the unionists workers asked for a 3-per-cent vice-president of the National to protect the interests of Alan searched for land near Croxton rise, which the company award- Union of Mineworkers in Der-The well-heeled villagers of Bowkett, who lives in Georgian to establish a chicken farm ed to 200 employees but offered who is chief executive of Beris- feetly legal. Mysteriously, they ford, the company which owns the plant in Darlington.

Yesterday the former colliers turned up with a flock of chickens, claiming they were to set up a farm not far from the estate. The ex-miners had been threatened with legal action for allegedly establishing an unlawful secondary picket line outside Mr Bowkett's property. They were also told they may be in hreach of "stalking" laws,

which they contend was per- nothing to the other 150. The were gazumped every time they were about to complete a purchase, until they found a landowner prepared to rent out a field. While they erected placards outside the field claiming Mr Bowkett's "Chickens

uted leaflets in the village. Under the headline "Magnet Kitchen A Company of £300,000 to the dismissed work-Shame", the pickets explained ers for retraining. Union leadthe goings-on to the villagers. ers denounced it as derisory.

Had Come To Roost", pickets

ry in deepest industrial Dar- ranged men pursuing frightened. After a three-year pay freeze the workers walked out and after 12 days all 350 were dismissed. That was 17 months ago, since it took. They helped us during when the Darlington factory has been picketed constantly.

The former workers were incensed by a £125,000 pay increase received by Mr Bowkett, already on £321,620. They say from the Magnet plant distrib- it would have cost £114,000 a year to settle the dispute. The company recently offered

Terry Butkeraitis, former byshire and one of the aspiring chicken farmers said he and h colleagues would stick by the Magnet workers for as long as the miners' strike with food and clothes, so we are repaying a debut of honour."

The Darlington men expressed disappointment with the Labour government and in particular Tony Blair, whose Sedgefield home is seven miles from the Magnet plant. Mr Bowkett yesterday argued that the dispute arose largely from inter-union rivalry.

## U-turn on greenbelt

THE Government did a Uturn yesterday in an attempt to dampen criticism of its environment policies before John Prescott's statement on house building on greenbelt land.

The minister for the regions, Dick Caborn, told MPs that he was withdrawing proposals in the Re-Development Agencies Bill, which give regional development agencies compulsory purchase powers, for a re-think.

The concession was aimed at reducing tensions over the threat to the greenbelt before the statement by the Deputy Prime Minister to the Commons next Monday on the Government's long term plans for housing in Britain.

#### Dog to die

A TERMINALLY-ILL dog seems destined to die in a police kennel after a magistrate refused to let it spend its final days with its owner.

Judd, a mastiff-terrier cross, was seized by police on Hampstead Heath in 1991, just two days before he was due to be registered under the Dangerous Dogs Act. His owner, Gary Dunne, said he was devastated by yesterday's decision.

#### Kenya arrests

FIVE men are being questioned by police in Kenya over the murder of Roy Chivers who was stabbed and robbed while on holiday with his wife.

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They were arrested in a dragnet uf the area around Aberdare Country Club in Nyeri where Mr Chivers, a retired officer with the Metropolitan police, was attacked on Sunday.

#### Car tax plea

GREEN campaigners are calling for Labour ministers to honour their pre-election pledges to penalise the owners of gas-guzzling cars. At present, drivers in Britain pay £150 a year regardless of vehicle.

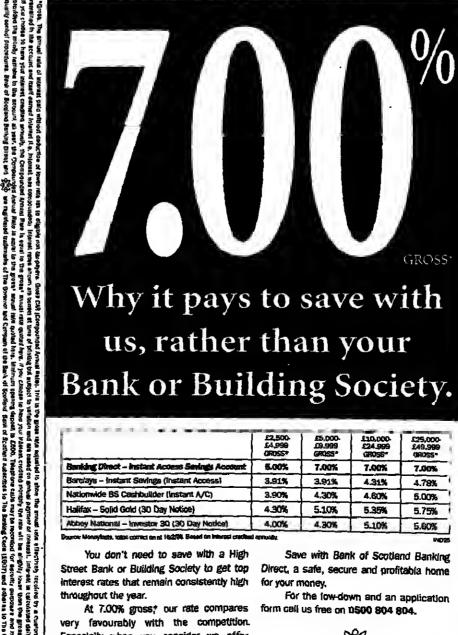
Charles Secrett, executive director of FoE, claimed the "flat road tax is a gift to greedy gas guzzlers".

#### Soldier's £1.7m

PRIVATE Iain Roy, 26. paralysed in an army exercise, has settled for more than £1.7m compensation, one of the largest such awards by the Ministry of Defence.



The RSPB is the charity which takes action for wild



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As 'The Independent' launches its campaign for tax subsidy on childcare, Diane Coyle considers the costs involved While Glenda Cooper looks at the present arrangements and what they mean for a lone parent who wants to work

# Childcare: a questionof national priorities

#### **ANALYSIS**

Which of the following uses of government money would most people in Britain regard as more valuable? Tax relief for drivers who use their car for work? An annual subsidy to farmers who grow arable crops like wheat and oilseed rape? The yearly cost of "policy and management" at the Ministry of Defence? The "bricks and mortar" subsidy of mortgage interest tax relief? Or government help for childcare?

Although few would quarrel with the idea that an investment in the nation's children ought to be an important priority, the truth is that it is not reflected in government policy. Even though the Government has announced that it will introduce a National Childcare Strategy, it has oot, yet, put the muscle of real money behind it.

For evidence about its priorities, compare the Welfare to Work spending on after-school childcare, intended to help looe parents (mainly women) return to work, with the New Deal spending on young people unemployed for more than six months (mainly men). The figures are £300m and £3.2bn respectively. The financing speaks

Cax Die

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the real language of priorities. Parents pay a higher proportion of the cost of childcare in Britain than virtually every other advanced economy, meeting 93 per cent of the cost.

Trust, the childcare campaign- it to market. ers, the typical annual bill for a school, is £6,000. This amounts subsidies to childcare providers to nearly a fifth of gross income for a two-job couple each on national average earnings - half as lowance is two-fold: it is admuch again as the same family

would spend on food. that Gordon Brown will take one significant and welcome ployers the skills and effort of step in his Budget on 17 March. some of the 2 million-plus He will make the current childcare element of Family Credit far more generous, and available to many more families, when the replacement working of simply giving money to par-

families tax credit is introduced. If the new childcare credit for those on low-incomes is infrom those close to the Chancellor indicate, it will lower a significant harrier to work for UK have amongst the lowest rates of employment compared to other countries because of what the Institute for Fiscal Studies has described as "the economy as a whole.

significant work disincentive costs of childcare in the UK".

But assistance for childcare targeted only on the very lowpaid ignores the same cost for millions of other women. They might earn somewhat more; but even for those on close to average earnings, paying for childcare makes the decision to go out to work touch-and-go financially for the second earner in the family.

The need is certainly greater for the least well-off, but there is an overwhelming case for additional government support for childcare - especially when compared with the other uses to which government money is put.

A basic-rate tax allowance of around £1,800 a year, similar to the married couples' allowance, and made available to one parent in a family using paid registered childcare, would cost the Exchequer £1bn-£2bn a year.

This would compare with the expected cost of the crops subsidy of £1.3hn; the £1hn a year subsidy to business drivers; the £2.7bn cost of mortgage interest tax relief; and the £1.7bn the MoD spends on policy in a year.

If the Government did not want to divert money from these priorities, it could chivvy departments into selling off some of the surplus assets like car parks and empty buildings identified last November in the National Asset Register. Despite the fanfare that greeted the 1990s "Domesday Book", According to the Daycare no wasted assets have yet made

> Some campaigners favour or low-cost loans to parents.

But the advantage of a tax alministratively simple and it creates a direct incentive for The Treasury has signalled women to work. It would potentially make available to emwomen with dependent children who do not work.

Some economists would argue that it has the disadvantage ents who are already at work and paying for childcare. True, but this overlooks the fact that deed as generous as the hints the mere fact of having children imposes a huge financial penalty on women, reducing their lifetime earnings by tens of many women, especially single thousands of pounds. If the mothers. Lone mothers in the Government is as family-friendly as it claims, a new childcare allowance would signal that it recognises the value this financial sacrifice contributes to the



Daily grind: Emma-Lyndsey Allan with her mother Lorna in their one-bedroom flat. Childcare costs mean there is little cash left for luxuries

#### Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

# 6 I voted Tony Blair in because I thought he was interested in this. You have to laugh now 7

#### THE FAMILY

LORNA ALLAN has done ex-

heart". She now finds herself in and struggles to pay her rent for out of clothes in a moment," she cause I'm paying someooc else. The Government is laughing all an intolcrable situation.

Th work full time, as she does haby live in. actly what the Government at the North Middlesex Hospiwants. A single parent deter- tal, she pays a third of her uet there's always the fear of debt. There's all this thing about getfamily with two children, one at different schemes such as direct mined not to sponge off the income to the childminder. I dread the electricity bill be- ting back into work but they do she had four or five children. I state, she went back to work. With such a large chunk gone cause I know I just don't have nothing to help parents really, had paid my tax and national inwhen her baby was 12 weeks old she has abundoned all thoughts the money. And children at this single or otherwise. I'm saving surance, gave her casb that she "even though it broke my of fuxuries such as holidays age just grow so quickly, they're the Government money be- then had to pay tax and NI on.

the small studio flat she and the said.

"At the back of my mind stigma attached to them, get off the statistics as well.

"Single mothers have this I'm employing someone so they

to look after my child. In effect the way to the bank. "I have to take holiday enti-

uement to ourse "The last childminder I had, she's sick. So if I'm likely to say to the minder, 'I'm thinking of taking some holiday', what I really mean is I need a rest from work and my boliday will be in Costa del Edmonton, I can't

> have any luxuries." She added: "If they just gave us a little bit of help it would be nice. If you bave a company you can put in tax returns and say this is an expense. I have to find more than £4,000 a year after I've paid my tax.

"I voted Tony Blair in because I thought he was interested in this. You have to laugh now. They're talking about parents going back to work and having to get off benefit. I'm not entitled to anything. Yet how are they going to achieve this without childcare?

"I don't want to he on benefits. I don't want charity. But I think one day in the future I'm going to have to pack it all in, go back to Scotland. I don't want to be a burden on my parents and the state but I just can't afford this life."

# Parents struggle with cost and lack of places

#### THE COSTS

ALMOST all childcare in the UK is private. More than 90 per cent of the costs of regis-UK are met by parents themselves - around £2.6bn per clubs. year. It is more expensive than anywhere else in Europe, the Daycare Trust estimates.

Yet there remains a shortage of childcare places. There are nearly 6 million children under the age of eight in Britain but less than 700,000 registered childcare places -

tered childcare places in the pared with 187,123 day nurseries and 56,322 after-school

The Chancellor in the last hudget indicated that £300m would be put aside for out-ofschool care to create 30,000 additional after-school clubs for 1 million children.

Parents with one pre-school typically face childcare hills of

on food or bousing. While an The higgest service by far is out-of-school club costs £15 to provided by childminders with £30 a week, a childminder 425,027 registered places, com- costs £80 to £120 per full- cations and high earning powtime place, a private nursery er are much more likely to go £70 to £180 and a nanny any-

thing between £80 and £260.

It is unsurprising then that many women turn to ad hoc means of childcare such as friends or partners. It is estimated 45 per cent of working mothers use informal means of childcare. Such arrangements child and one child at school are often unreliable and inadequate and there are no sup-

there is only one childcare around £6,000 per annum - port services geared to help in- Childcare has been acknowlplace for every nine children nearly double what they spend formal childcarers provide appropriate play and learning opportunities for children.

Mothers with good qualifiback to work after having children as they can afford the childcare. Less than a third of mothers with no qualifications return to work compared to three-quarters of mothers with A levels or higher qualifications.

The 1989 Children Act placed a duty on local authorities to provide childcare for

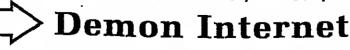
family support for children whose families are in serious crisis, children whose health or development is in jeopardy and children with disabilities. However, shrinking budgets mean cuts have been made year after year in childcare provision. In England, 32,900 children had places in local authority day nurseries and childminders employed by local authorities in 1985 compared with 28,900 in 1995. A high proportion of these chilchildren who are in need. dren attended part-time.

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- Headlanyos, must be

- DON'T FORGET!

ASK them to throwin

duvery, number plates

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and 12 months'

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HIGH LEVEL

HALOGEN

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Radiation fears bring pigeon ban at Sellafield

THE Government has issued an unprecedented ban on handling or eating pigeons found within 10 miles of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant because of fears that they are radioactive. The ootice has been issued by the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, after batches of more than 150 culled local pigeons were found to have high levels of radiation contamination.

The Independent revealed last week that the birds had beeo tested by British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) scientists after suspicions by an inspector from the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals.

beeo called to a hird sanctuary in the nearby village of Seascale in Cumbria to carry out a cuil of 150 pigeons after the sanctuary's flock of some 700 birds became the subject of complaints from local residents.

The dead hirds were analysed in a series of batches and were found to be highly cootaminated.

BNFL staff are now planning to dig up the gardeo at the Singing Surf hird sanctuary, owned by sisters Jane and Barrie Robinson, and take the topsoil to a nearby nuclear waste

BNFL is also planning either to "power-wash" or dig up the tarmac driveway at Singing Surf, in order to remove further traces of radiation.

Since the first cull, BNFL officials have culled a further 200 birds and the remaining pigeons at Singing Surf may also bave to be captured and destroyed. MAFF cootinues to carry out its own independent tests into how the birds became contaminated, Government officials are also seeking to minimise the risk that the radioactive pigeons pose to the public. In its notice, MAFF states: "As a precautioo, local to handle, slaughter or consume designated area are safe to any pigeons found within a 10- eat."

The inspector had earlier mile radius of the site. Advice from ornithologists indicates that feral pigeons are highly territorial and are unlikely to stray

beyond the 10-mile area." The sisters say their pigeon flock is a mixture of feral and racing birds. They believe some of the pigeons may have roosted in the Sellafield huildings, some of which are easily accessed by pigeons and gulis.

However, they also claim the local atmosphere is heavily polluted by the nuclear reprocessing plant, exposing the pigeons as well as the human population to radiation.

BNFL said pigeons found at the Sellafield site were being culled. A spokesman said: "We are also surveying the areas on site where they might gather so that nooks and crannies can be blocked off to prevent them

coming back to roost." MAFF inspectors have been touring the area around Sellafield to ensure no traders are offering pigeon meat for sale. "Feral pigeons are unlikely to enter the food chain," said a spokesperson. "MAFF has beeo monitoring contamination levels in foodstuffs produced around Sellafield, and other ouclear sites, for 10 years. This has confirmed that other residents are being advised not foodstuffs produced within this

# Classical music's big names add their weight to campaign

By David Lister Arts News Editor

Some of the biggest names from the world of British classical music have joined The Independent's campaign to end the crisis in the arts.

Rattle, composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies and music director of The English National Opera, Paul Daniel, who won a Laureoce Olivier Award this week for his achievements with ENO, have signed up to the campaign. The fashion designer Zandra Rhodes has also lent her support.

Sir Simon has made the City Of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra a global force since becomiog music director. But despite this, it has suffered severe problems of funding. The tax breaks we are advocating for donors would provide an additional source of funding for such a popular orchestra.

The Independent and Independent On Sunday campaign is urging the Chancellor to simplify the tax system for those giving to the arts and make all docations tax deductible in his publicly about tax matters in the hudget oo 17 Marcb. This dividuals give to the arts, aod help eod the financial crisis cultural institutions are facing.

Leading lights in the arts cootinue to come oo board the campaign. Last week, two of the biggest names in British theatre leot their support — the musicals impresario Sir Cameron Mackintosh, acd the actor Ian Holm. They joio a list that includes Sir Peter Hall, Alan Ayckbourn, Fiona Shaw and Harriet Walter. Readers have been writing in with their support in large oumbers, showing the desire that exists io Britain to give to the arts and to end the anomalies that in effect penalise people for doing so.

We are urging Mr Brown to use his budget to introduce a change in taxation law to enable a substitute for, a proper system people to make tax-free dona- of public subsidy.

THE INDEPENDENT Save

the

tions to arts companies and venues. A simple system could be brought in to replace the muddled and cumbersome system of tax relief through

covenants and the Gift Aid

The system is riddled with anomalies. Some arts organisations are charines, others are not. Tax relief can only be claimed where the organisation is a charity. In addition, tax relief can only be claimed on donations above £250, a deterrent to many who would like to help the arts.

The campaign has already scored two significant victories. Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, who cannot speak run-up to the budget, was said would increase the amount in- by senior sources in his own department to be behind the campaign and to be having talks with the Chancellor about making contributions tax deductible.

And the Association for

Business Sponsorship of the

Arts expressed its support. It includes leading businesses such as BT and BP and has on its council such arts luminaries as Lord Puttnam and Dame Diana Rigg. Its director general, Colin Tweedy, said: "Arts supporters should be left with a warm feeling, not an accounting nightmare." Many readers and celebrities who have been phoning in with their support were keen to stress, correctly, that the system of tax relief and climate of giving we are advocating should be additional to, and not The state of the s

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# Scientists blow whistle on sunscreen lotions

By Nicholas Schoon in Philadelphia

THERE IS no good evidence that sunscreen lotions protect against melanomas, one of the cancer. Two suggested the opmost lethal and fast-growing cancers, scientists told the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science yesterday.

screens, said Marianne Berwick, an epidemiologist at stance, people who burnt easithe Memorial Sloanc-Kettering ly might use lotions to stay out Caocer Centre in New York. in the sun for honger - thereby "Your genetic disposition to these cancers is the most important factor." A large, popu-them get out of the sun. But this lation-based study she had done would mean exposing themfound the melanoma risk for peopte with many motes was six and running a higher risk of times higher than that of someone with only a few. The tisk for someone with the type of John Noland said he had grave colouring which goes with greatest sensitivity to sunshine - red or fair hair, light-coloured eyes - was almost six times that for or octyl-dimethyl PAB. When a Caucasian with dark hair and

Lotions certainly stop burning but do not appear to stop melanomas. For a white person in northern Europe, the lifetime risk of contracting one of these cancers is around one in 100. About a fifth of victims are rubbed over the skin, some killed by them. They are rare could penetrate the cells. and more lethal than the two other types, known as nonmelanoma. The main cause of cal," he said. all three is ultra-violet rays in

epidemiological studies into melanoma and sunscreen use. Six indicated that the more sunsereen one used, the more posite conclusion, and the othor two showed no link at all,

She concluded there were so many problems and "con-"It's not safe to rely on sun-studies that it was unsafe to founding factors" with such preventing the sunhurn which would otherwise have made selves to more than they should. melanoma.

Oxford University chemist doubts about an ultra-violet blocking ingredient used in a few fotions, called Padimate-O. suntight is shone on it, it releases chemicals which can damage DNA. He found this to be the case for isolated DNA and for the DNA inside skin cells when these are cultured in a test tube. He believes it is possible that when the chemical is

"I would not use a sunscreen containing this chemi-

"Unfortunately, EU regulasunshine, which damage DNA. tions do not require manufac-Dr Berwick examined 10 turers to state that it is an

quirement." He said some to block both ultra-violet B products state they are \*PAB- and ultra-violet A radiation. But it and many give consumers no exposure to strong sunshine, es- ing his research group had

■ Professor Jouni Uitto, of into how sunlight wrinkles and

of mouse which can give insights

The mice contain the human gene which switches on the transformed into large, hap-

structural protein which gives tissue their springiness. As the skin ages, the normal arrangement of orderly elastin fibres is

hazard clumps, causing the skin

# 'Gang tried to sell £2.8m of rhino horn'

UNDERCOVER animal wel- ter police raided a store in fare investigators posed as buy- west Loodon where the horus ers to sting a gaog trying to sell were being kept. £2.8m worth of rhinoceros horn, a court heard yesterday.

The gang was recruited by a former actiqués dealer serving a life sentence for murder who had collected the horns before it became illegal to sell them. Kiog's Lynn Crown Court was

Wilfred Bull, 63, wanted to sell the 127 horris m preparation, for his release from prisoo and called in a "lady friend", Carol Scotchford-Hughes. Who brought in another couple,

David Eley and Elaine Arscott. But Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals officers and police were tipped off after Ms Arscott, using a false name, phoned the London Stock Exchange to inquite about selling them.

The unsuspecting gang held several meetings - one of which was bugged - with the undercover officers at a hotel in Cambridge to talk about the deal. RSPCA inspector Alan Fisher told the court he was in regular contact with the gang in 1996 to

make the arrangements. Mr Fisher told the court Mr Eley referred to the rhino horns as "antique chairs" for security reasons, unaware the conversation was bugged, and the deal was fixed for 3 Sep-

tember 1996. The gang were arrested af-

The court had earlier been told that rhings were an endangered species and it was illegal to trade in them or their horn. "If you kill the trade, it reduces the inecotive for destroying the animals," said John Farmer, opening the case for the prosecutioo.

The horn is seeo as an aphrodisiac in the par hast and fetches £12.000 per kilogram. Mr Farmer told the court.

Bull, who was jailed at the Old Bailey in 1986 for the murder of his wife Patsy a year carlier, contacted a legal executive. Paul Rexstrew, from his prison cell to arrange the financial traosaction and launder the money, the jury was told.

Mr Resstrew, of Wimbledon, south-west London, denies conspiracy to sell rhino horns, claiming he knew they were dealing with art treasures and animal trophies but did not know it was rhino horn.

The jury has been told that Carol Scotchford-Hughes of Willingham, Cambridgeshire. and Elaine Arscott and David Eley, both of Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire, have pleaded guilty to the charge. Bull has pleaded guilty to the charge under the Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement Regulations) Act 1985. The hearing continues today.

ingredient in writing on the both hint. The experts say people pecially if you have sensitive genetically engineered a breed production of elastin, a key tle, but this should be a re- should use a lotion which claims skin.

free", some admit to containing the best advice is to limit your son University, told the meet-

Philadelphia's Thomas Jeffer- ages human skin.

surface to become leathery and wrinkled. He has shown ultraviolet radiation activates this gene in the mouth, leading to large-scale elastio production.



## Ads turn teenagers on to smoking

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

MORE THAN a third of

teenagers are lured into experimenting with eigarettes by tobacco advertising and promotion, researchers say.

The power of advertising in recruiring young smokers is demonstrated by a study which shows teenagers who notice cigarette ads or acquire a promotional item are much more likely to take up smoking than others.

Scientists who interviewed 1,750 American adolescents aged 12 to 17 in 1993 who had never smoked and who said they had no plans to start. even if a friend offered them a cigarette, found half had progressed towards smoking wheo ioterviewed again three years

Almost 30 per cent had experimented with smoking and greater than that of other 3.6 per ceot had consumed at smokers, contrary to the findleast 100 cigarettes in total. A iogs of other studies.

further 16.6 per cent had become susceptible to smoking.

The change in their attitude over the three years was closely linked to their attitude to eigarette advertising. Those who had a favourite ad in 1993, more than half the total, were twice as likely to have started smoking in 1996 or to be willing to start.

Those who owned a promotional item or were willing to use one in 1993 were nearly three times as likley to progress lowards smoking.

The authors, from the University of California, say in the Journal of the American Medical Association: "We estimate that 34 per cent of all experimentation in California between 1993 and 1996 can be attributed to tobacco promotional activities." They say the influence of advertising was

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# **Masons** escape forced exposure

Crime Correspondent

NEW recruits to the police, magistrates, prison and the Crown Prosecution Service will Freemasons in future, but most workers in the criminal justice expected to escape compulsory registration.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, yesterday called on the threatened to introduce new details were not released. The Freemasons indicated that they are unlikely to co-operate.

The Home Office plans appear to have been watered down by the refusal of judges to reveal whether they are Freemasons. Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, has been fighting a rearguard action against the Home Office and has argued that a reg- also have to declare memberister would be an infringement of the judiciary's privacy and individual rights.

Yesterday's announcement follows an inquiry into secret so- working in the criminal justice cieties by the Commons Home field.

Affairs Select Committee, which called for a register to be set up and made publicly available.

The chairman of the committee yesterday criticised the judiciary and said it was a "nonhave to declare whether they are sense" to suggest the Government could not force all members of the criminal justice system, particularly judges, are system to disclose their membership of a secret society.

Action against societies, in particularly the Freemasons, whose 500,000 British members United Grand Lodge to publish are divided into about 9,500 a list of its Freemasons and lodges, was demanded after decades of concern that members laws to force members of the of the society, particularly police secret society to be identified if officers, are abusing their membership of the "brotherhood".

As revealed in The Independent in November, all future recruits to the justice organisations in England and Wales will bave to register their membership of the Freemasons. The Home Office is also considering whether members who are transferred or promoted will ship. The Home Secretary has written to the United Grand Lodge requesting the names and occupations of members

If, as expected, they refuse for a compulsory register.



for the Lodge, said yesterday it would be extremely expensive added: "The general feeling is the public. Anyone who refuswhy are we being singled out. es to disclose whether they are The idea that we are going to a member or not is likely to be be forced to do something sticks considered a Freemason. The fiin the throat of a lot of Freema-

But John Hamill, spokesman the Home Office intends to set up a voluntary register of about chairman of the Home Affairs could not be forced to register, 250,000 criminal justice workers select committee, while weland difficult to provide a list. He which will be made available to coming the announcement as a councillors already have to denal sanction, if the voluntary list is unworkable, will be legislation

step in the right direction, was clare their interests. bighly critical of the judges for holding back the reforms. He mocrat home affairs spokesman accused them of having "a sense of their own self-importance".

He added that it was "nonsense" to suggest that existing Justice Millet, who is a Freema-

Chris Mullin, the Labour employees, such as judges, demned the new rules. pointing out that MPs and

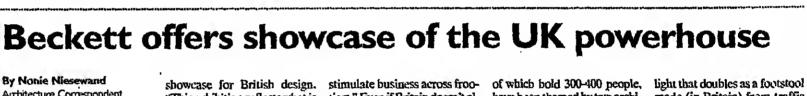
> Alan Beith, the Liberal Desaid that judges should not be allowed to hide Masonic links.

But one senior judge, Lord

son, yesterday bitterly con-

"There is no sense in it. It's an unwarranted interference in our private lives and it doesn't achieve anything," be told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

"What are people supposed to do? You can't choose which judge will try your case, so





Beating the drum: The powerhouse: UK's mini-domes

Arthitecture Correspondent

"THE FACE of modern Britain is more than the Spice Girls, The Full Monty; or Soho at night," Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, believes, and Asia appreciate this as bibition to be beld in four sil-

To prove it, the Department or trade and industry das com-

bappeniog lo multi-cultural ways manufacture it. Britain. Good design makes for good business." Mrs Beck- mats from Asia and Europe at-

much as we do. We see power- ver inflatable mini-domes in the missioned a £1m exhibition, tunity to put the best of cutting called powerhouse: UK, to be a edge British design on show to

"This exhibition reflects what is tiers," Even if Britain doesn't al-

Trade delegates and diplotending the ASEM 2 summit "Our partners in Europe from 2-4 April will visit the ex-Guards Parade.

Four steel framed drums, each

have been themed by two architects, Doug Bransoo and Nigel Coates, to reflect lifestyle, communications, learning and networking. After the summit the public can attend for a fortnight

until 19 April. with Tom Dixon's ingenious opens in August.

made (in Britain) from traffic bollards. Oasis (half of whose profits go to Creation Records in Japan) will play as visitors interact with computer games, and audio-visuals.

The four pavilions are a The designer Alexander Me-miniaturised version of Branson Coates' National Centre for (made in France) rub shoulders Pop Music in Sheffield which

# Dobson battles Brown on NHS

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

FRANK DOBSON and the Chancellor Gordon Brown are locked in a Cabinet battle over demands by the Secretary of State for Health for an extra £500m to end the waiting list crisis in NHS bospitals, which will be revealed tomorrow.

Amid fears that the Government will be accused of breaking one of its key election pledges that waiting lists will be cut, Mr Dobson has got the broad backing of the Prime Minister to add around £2bn to the NHS budget next year, but Mr Brown is holding out.

The Chancellor added an extra £300m to the NHS budget to avoid a winter crisis last year, and he announced an increase in spending on the NHS of £1.2bn from I April as the centre-piece of his Budget in July last year.

Mr Dobson is arguing that he has applied some unpalatable medicine to the NHS with tight pay restraint on the nurses to meet the Chancellor's tough spending limits, but the demands facing the NHS which be inherited from the Tories are greater than expected.

Whitehall officials have confirmed that the waiting list figures due to be published tomorrow will continue to show a rise in the number of patients waiting for treatment, but the bad figures will reinforce Mr Dobson's demands for more

Mr Dobson yesterday gave a clear signal that the figures would be bad, when be praised the hard work of nurses and doctors in coping with the extra demand, which showed no let-up in spite of the mild winter. The ounibers being treated will show a rise to record 2.39 million in the last quarter.

He told the Local Governmeot Association that his commitment to give priority to coning with emerge had led to increases in waiting lists for elective surgery.



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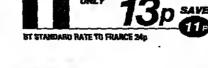










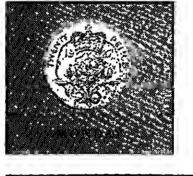


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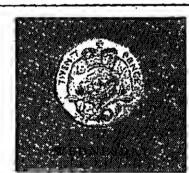


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# Recruiting crisis hits classroom standards

By Judith Judd Education Editor

MINISTERS will today be told by their own backbenchers that they will jeopardise the Government's education standards drive unless they act more boldly to solve the teacher recruitment crisis.

In a blunt speech, Margaret Hodge, chairman of the allparty Commons select committee on education, will argue that the Government's response to the committee's report on recruitment is disappointing. Applications for one-year postgraduate teacher training courses are down 10 per cent on the same time last year. The drop for maths is 22 per cent and for physics 34 per cent.

Applications for undergraduate courses, mainly primary, are down 15 per cent.

The proportion of unsuccessful applicants to postgraduate courses has also fallen sharply over the last three years, suggesting that colleges and universities are having to admit students of poorer quality.

Yesterday, a new survey revealed that a quarter of primary headships remained unfilled last term because no suitable candidates applied.

Ms Hodge will tell MPs that the £1.5m government advertising campaign to attract recruits is not enough. "The advertising campaign, whilst welcome, will be ineffective unless it is part of a wider strategy. The Government must respond more enthusiastically than they have so far to the radical proposals in our report."

The committee wants the Government to take up proposals such as financial incentives for new teachers, for example, paying off student loans, and extra cash to keep place will make a difference." good teachers in the classroom. he said.

Ministers believe that heads are the key to higher standards but nearly half the schools in yesterday's survey carried out by the National Association of Head Teachers attracted six or fewer applications for the headship. Six is considered an absolute minimum for an

adequate shortlist. The survey, produced by John Howson of Education Data Services, also shows that governors failed to fill more than a quarter of the deputy headships advertised.

Headships have traditionally been hard to fill in London and south-east England, but Mr Howson said the difficulties had now spread to other areas. David Hart, the association's general secretary, said: "These recruitment figures are a sharp reminder to the Government that they are in danger over presiding over a recruitment crisis which demands an urgent

Mr Howson pointed out that in maths, the proportion of applicants for teacher training courses not offered a place is 10 per cent, compared with 17 per cent three years ago. In English it is 16 per cent compared with 26 per cent.

He said: "I should be very surprised if the quality is not suffering in some way. This suggests that we are taking some people who are marginally unsuited to teaching." The Teacher Training

Agency, the quango in charge of recruitment, is known to be looking at ways of promoting headship. An agency spokesman said that not enough people were coming forward for headship because they felt unprepared. "The new national professional qualification for heads which we have put in



## Challenge of the sands

SOLDIERS from the 1st **Battalion the Parachute** Regiment yesterday prepare to tackie a sixday, 143-mile run across the Sahara by training on the sandy terrain of Long Valley, Aldershot.

The team will undertake the 'toughest foot-race on earth', the Marathon des Sables, in Morocco at the end of next month to raise money for imperial Cancer Research and Airborne Forces Charities.

The team doctor, Captain Mike McErlain, is using the training to research stress fractures a local weakening of the bone, which are commo in athletes and during military training. Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid



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### DAILY POEM

#### Anon

By Gerald Dawe

My Prague scarf has no name nor maker. I bought it that time we waltzed around the freezing city: trad' jazz in the bars... the foggy castle above, shadowy beggars on the bridge and the foreign kids hanging loose on the corporate squares. This was hip, my dream city, you were it, and no one could see me in behind the Prague scarf, hidden like a bandit.

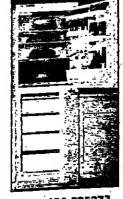
This poem comes from Signals, an anthology of poetry and prose from writers involved in the first Abbey Arts Week, organised by the Abbey Grammar School in Newry. Signals, edited by Adrian Rice, costs £8.95 (paperback) from The Abbey Press, Courtenay Hill, Newry, County Down BT34 2ED.



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# Robotic Yeltsin raises fears he is losing the plot

By Phil Reeves in Mosco://

TECHNICALLY, he did not put a foot wrong. He acknowledged Russia's economic and social problems, hailed its slender victories, and charted a glorious, so far elusive, path to growth. Therewas a swipe at the US over Iraq, and a jab at his parliament over the budget.

But the content of Boris Yeltsin's now customary annual "state of the nation" address is only half of the story. Just as the world used to watch Ronald Reagan's public appearances for his gaffes, it now scrutinises Mr Yeltsin's performances for clues to his state of health.

For 30 minutes the Russian President spoke in a normal and more or less clear voice to a joint session of both houses His handlers were confident eoough to allow his speech to he televised live, knowing that one stammer, one slur, is coough to yield alarmist head-

ness among international investors and in the markets.

Yet, although he survived unscathed, yesterday's lacklustre and robotic speech was far from triumphant, despite his claims that Russia is on course for its first growth since reforms began in 1992. Rather, it was a reminder that Boris Yelisin is a faded figure, very different from the obsessive, flamhoyaot iconoclast and workaholic who ousted Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991.

Moscow - a city which makes up for the lack of meaningful politics by ceaselessly speculating about who will be the country's next all-powerful president - has long heeo debating the possibility that Mr

Yeltsin will seek a third term. But it looks about as likely of parliament in the Kremlin. as Russia heating Australia at cricket. "I find it difficult to imagioe Yeltsin ruoning again." said Dmitri Trenin, a leading political analyst, "Nor am I sure that the Russian voters would allow him, to."



Russia oow appears to he used to the notion that Mr Yeltsin is not on his death-bed. despite the persistent scares about his health (although two ambulances accompanied him everywhere on his last foreign outing). Some observers still privately insist that he is bare-

halmed body of Lenin in Red Square, hut most acknowledge that his doctors were probably telling the truth wheo they said his quintuple corooary bypass in 1996 was a success.

The issue has shifted to more mundane territory. His is

a gradual decline, compared with Brezhnev's later years. The difference is that Brezhnev presided over a static stagnant system; Mr Yeltsin heads one in fast-fluctuating transition.

Although relatively youthful by Western standards - he has just turned 67 - Mr Yeltsin

has long been an old man in Russian terms, having lived nine years longer than the average male. Power, politics and his own destructive personality have weathered even this tough Siberian. Every now and then, the world gets awk-

ward and unhappy glimpses of

week, he became muddled wheo answering reporters' questions and made a few mi-

oor hlunders of protocol. His occasional ecceotric outhursts - for example, his

claim in Rome that the UN Secretary-Geoeral, Kofi An-

Russian soldiers guarding against the cold at a reception for the Chinese premier Photograph: Reuters stars

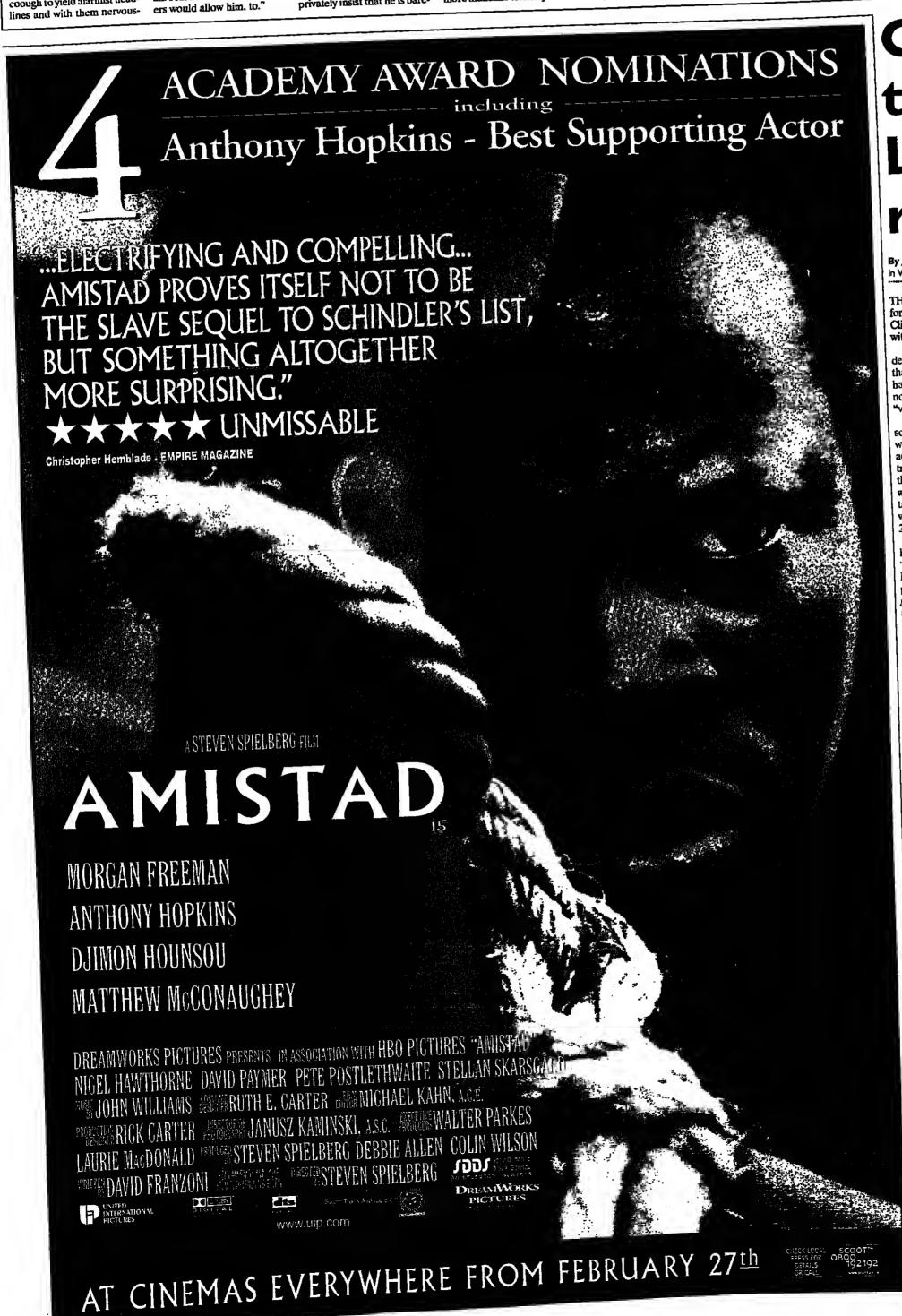
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oan, had aircady agreed to go to Iraq, or his announcement that he "loves Italian women" - can be attributed to a tendency to overact in the international limelight. But the slips and moments of confusion denote an old man who, every now and then, loses the thread.

There was only one flash of the pugilistic, passionate Yeltsin during yesterday's performance. After he ended his speech, the hell-raising oationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky. freshly returned from a farcical trip to Baghdad, began to hector him from the floor about the Iraq crisis. "There is not a single person in this who has involved himself more in Iraq than I have," replied an angry Mr Yeltsin, who was later due to meet the Chinese premier, Li Peng. But it was not ecough to be truly convincing.



# Clinton to admit Lewinsky relations

By John Carlin in Washington

THE White House has admitted for the first time that Presideor Clinton did have a relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Mike McCurry, the President's chief spokesman, said that while the relationship may have been "simple" and "innecent" it had probably been very complicated".

Mr McCurry added that socoer or later Bill Clinton to provide a full account of what exactly had transpired between himself and the former White House intern. who allegedly told a frieod on tape that she had an affair with the President when she was

The President has denied having had an "improper" or "sexual" relationship with Ms Lewinsky hut, in an interview published in yesterday's Chicago Tribune, Mr McCurry acknowledged that something

had gone on. "Maybe there'll be a simple, innocent explanation," he said. 'l doo't think so, because I think we would have offered that up alresdy."

Mr McCurry, who had previously insisted that he was in the dark as to the details of the Lewinsky affair, said the Presideot had heen hesitant to reveal more for fear of providing his enemies with the opportunity to twist the truth.

"We are oot in a position to provide a full and complete account, so the art is to make sure everything we say is truth-ful and credible," said Mr Mc-Curry, offering a glimpse of the calculated manipulation of pub-lic perceptions of which he has been a part.

As for his own, personal, apparently less varnished view of what the truth might he, Mr McCurry said: "I think it's going to end up being a very complicated story, as most human relationships are. And I don't think it's going to be entirely easy to explain, maybe."

But he did say that allegations that Mr Clinton had sex might be that Mr McCurry's rein the Oval Office where "pretty implausible" because there was "so much traffic" in and out of the President's office.

On the face of it, Mr Mc-Curry's statements smack of treachery. His boss, backed up forcibly by Hillary Clinton, has flatly denied having had an affair with Ms Lewinsky.

But now Mr McCurry, the President's hitherto loyal lieutenant, is openly venturing the view that the relationship may not have been "incocent".

He is also suggesting it may oot be "entirely easy to explain" and, perhaps most damning of all instead of squarely endorsing the President's denial of a sexual relationship, Mr Mc-Curry is prepared to go no fur-

ther than to say that the notion of illicit sex in the Oval Office is "pretty implausible" - a remark open to the interpretatioo that sex in some other White House chamber may have heeo less implausible.

It could be that Mr McCurry, who wanted to leave the President's employment a year ago hut succumbed to pressure to stay on, is heartily fed up of enduring the daily indignity of responding to reporters' questions with evasions and half-truths.

He may have seen the interview with the Chicago Tribune as an opportunity pre-emptively to distance himself from any unseemliness that might emerge once the truth about the Lewinsky affair is finally known.

An alternative explanatioo





Relationship: Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky

marks were artfully constructed in consultation with the President and his advisers, in which case the suggestion would seem to be that Mr Clintoo is seeking to prepare the public for revelations that in some way deviate from the forceful denials he has issued so far.

Whatever Mr McCurry's agenda msy be, it does appear to anticipate the likelihood that Ms Lewinsky will be obliged to give her version of events before the Grand Jury soon,

possibly this week. According to all the indications so far, Ms Lewinsky will sooner or later reveal that the relationship with the President was far from innocent, and very complicated indeed.

لكذا من ألاصل

# 'Mugged' cricket stars find they've been caught out

By Mary Braid in Johannesburg

FIRST there was the national shame. Last week two members of the Pakistani cricket squad were reported to have been mugged in the early hours in Sandton, one of Johannesburg's plushest suburbs and destination of an army of international tourists.

As photographs of key bowlers Mohammed Akram and Saqlain Mushtaq displaying their cuts and bruises were published in newspapers the national hand-wringiog began. The start of the international Test series between South Africa and Pakistan had to he delayed because the Pakistanis did oot bave enough men to field a team. South Africao hlushes could be seen in Karachi.

But there are now rumours that it is Pakistan, not South Africa, which should be embarrassed, For there are allegations that Akram and Mushtaq received their injuries in a fight at what is coyly referred to as a hostess club. International cricket officials are denying allegations that the two men in fact made up the mugging story to save their blushes.

South Africans, carrying the heavy burden of their country be-

host of violent crimes can hardly stop sniggering. But even if it can be proved the players concocted the tale - and we may never know - the damage is done. The one day delay in the Test cost millions of rands. The cost to tourism in South Africa may be much higher, even if the story is disproved reports have already circled the globe, further blackening South Africa's law and order reputation.

Yesterday, police said they were still trying to obtain statements from the men about their alleged assautt by "black" men driving a "hlue" car. The players were said to be under medication and unable to make a statement. The police have already said they can find no witnesses to the assault.

Meanwhile, there are press reports of an affidavit from a club hostess who says the cricketers were sitting happily in the club at the time of the alleged attack, and that they got into a hrawl later.

South African police have launched themselves into solving the case with uncharacteristic vigour. This weekend the Pakistani team, which has complained of poor security, is being offered bodyguards for its matches in Durban. Whether that is to protect them from muggers or irate South ing the international capital of a African cricket fans is unclear.



Saqlain Mushtaq: mugging injuries reportedly caused in fight Photograph: Allsport

# Japan at war on 'peace' clause

By Richard Lloyd Parry

In a country where a grey demeanour and bland utterance are de rigueur among public servants, Eisuke Sakakibara has long been an exception: brilliant, charming and articulate in Japanese and English, a borequerat with a grasp of the big picture and a reputation for speaking his mind.

As a vice-minister in the finance ministry (MoF). he has been the choice of several prime ministers in sorting out tricky trade negotiations. His cognations on postmodernism have been published in journals. and among currency traders he carned the nickname Mr Yen for his ability to move the markets with a carefully deployed

But he finds himself in hot water - not over the economy, or corruptioo scaodals, but

over Japan's constitution. Drafted in 1945 by the US occupying forces led by Douglas MacArthur, it is showing its age. Anicle Nine, the "peace" clause, vows that "land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained.

But in the the "Self-Defence Forces" Japan possesses one of the largest military machines in the world. Every year. on Constitution Day, newspapers compele to produce proposed revisions.

Left-wingers insist Article Nine be followed to the letter; right-wingers demand its abolition. This month Mr Sakakihara, famed for his outspokenness, pilched in. And then the trouble started.

"It should be completely redone," he told Chuo Koronin magazine an interview published yesterday. "The constitutioo should be a document which resiliently changes with the time, and when you look at politics and the way the government works, the constitution has to change or there'll be something wrong. "The legislative body (of

eovernment) has fundamentally lost its will to hammer out legislation. What it should be doing is rewriting the constitu-On the face of it, this all

seems reasonable enough, but the reaction has been swift and cold. Members of the Social Democratic Party, guardians of the peace clause and members of the ruling coalition. denounced Mr Sakakibara for superseding the bounds of his brief". The party's leader. Thkako Doi, whom Japanese call their "Iron Lady", has said it will summon him for a dressing-down, Mr Sakakibara has

been more outspoken than the average bureaucrai, though no one minded this when it tweaked the markets in the right direction.

But the timing of the remarks is sensitive for two reasons. One is the scandal embroiling the MoF, a tale of corruption and collusion between banks and their supposed watchdogs, and of bureaucrats selling favours for expensive meals in restaurants where the waitresses wear no knickers.

The MoF's reputation has never been lower, and this is not a time for its spokesmen to get

The second reason is the timing, a few days in advance of an anticipated second Gulf

The constitution's higgest test came in 1991, after the invasion of Kuwait, when Japanese politicians agonised for weeks over whether to send troops to the Gulf and ended up just sending a big cheque.

When the US ambassador to the Uoited Natioos, Bill Richardson, came to Tokyo seeking support against President Saddam Hussein, the response, in traditional Japanese style, was measured, vague and indecisive.

Everything, in other words, that Mr Sakakibara is not.

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## Anger over Belgian atrocities inquiry

By Katherine Butler in Brussels

FAMILIES of the victims of Belgium's child-sex and murder atrocities reacted angrily yesterday to the report of a parliameotary inquiry which dismisses claims that Marc Dutroux was shielded by cor-

rupt police or politicians. The man now in jail facing trial for running a paedophile ring which first abused, then murdered four young girls, took advantage instead - the re- succeeded in protecting themjudicial system where incompetence was endemic.

Police behaved with "incompetence amateurism and negligence" said MPs whose inquiry lasted over a year. The report condemns the "profound deficiencies" in the judicial and police system but says there is no evidence of a high-level cover-up or conspiracy. Dutroux they found nothing.

potential safety risk.

not affected in any way.

does not appear to have been al the centre of any network.

But parents of some of the victims criticised the inquiry's failure to point the finger of responsibility at political leaders in a country where judicial appointments are carved up along political lines.

Pol Marchal, whose daughter An's body was found buried in Dutroux's garden, said: Nothing fundamental has changed. Once more the traditional coalition parties ... have

For Gino Russo, whose eight-year-old daughter Melissa also died after mooths of abuse at the hands of Dutroux, the conclusions make no sense. Detectives searched his house three times when Melissa and her friend Julie Lejeune were still alive hut although the officers heard children's cries

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#### Freetown relief drive

Nigérian-led occupation forces in Sierra Leone pushed to open supply routes into Freetown, still reeling from the ousting of the military junta, while relief agencies prepared to receive their first shipments of medicine and food.

The Red Cross was compiling a list of people most in need of assistance, including more than 1,000 people left homeless in the - AP, Freetown fighting.

#### Stubbed out

30 years put up with fumes from at least 12 cigarettepuffing colleagues, won the right to work in a smokefree office. The Federal Labour Court heard that wheo she complained of the smoke, she was told to sit near an open window.

- Reuters, Kassel

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# A question of war: does the UN hold the key?

a question-and-answer session between The Independent and a Foreign Office spokesman yesterday:

The spokesman was asked whether it was still the government position, as stated by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, in the House of Commons last week, that a United Nations Security Council Resolution would be sought by the United Kingdom for a clear, unambiguous endorsement of military action before such action was taken.

Spokesman: "The position on legal justification is as follows: The first point to make is that any military action which might involve UK forces will be firmly based on international law. The Charter of the UN allows for the use of force under the authority of the Security Coun-

[He then put his answer Question: But it doesn't into its known historical context. saving: | "The Security Council resolution adopted before the Gulf conflict authorised the use of force in order to restore international peace and secu-

rity in the region. "Iraq is in clear breach - UN Security Council members are agreed upon this - in clear breach of Resolution 687. which laid down the conditions for the ceasefire at the end of the conflict, and those conditions included a requirement on Iraq to eliminate its weapons of mass destruction under international supervision."

After that historical parenthesis the spokesman then returned to the central question - the need for a new resolution. authorising the use of force now, saying:] "As for what we're seeking at the Security Council, we're looking for the adoption in the Security Council of a resolution at an appropriate

going to depend very much on Cook has said. I have giveo you what happens with Kofi An- as clear an explanation as I can, nan's [the UN Secretary-Gen- as I understand it, from the leerall visit to Baghdad, if indeed gal point of view. it goes ahead, which is the assumption.

"And we feel that it's desir-

THE following is a transcript of The Foreign Office is playing it all by the book, Anthony Bevins is told

> itals] that the Security Council should give a firm and united signal [our itals] to Saddam of the unacceptability of Iraq's conduct, its obstructionism, and that a Security Council Resolution would be a good way of doing that.

> "So the Government's going to continue to act in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the UN.

But if military action is needed against Iraq, then the precise justification will depend on the circumstances of

"At the moment, the main game in town, the focus of the next few days is going to be Kofi Annan's visit to Baghdad. That is as full an answer as I can give.

quite answer the question that Mr Cook answered in the House [on 10 February, Honsord, col 149]. Tam Dalyetl asked: Does the House have the clear, unambiguous undertaking that, before military action is taken, we will return to the Security Council of the United Nations for its clear, unambiguous endorsement of that military action?

To which Mr Cook reptied: A large number of diplomats in the Foreign Office have been working towards precisely that objective [our itals] for several days. We hope to table that [our itals] resolution in New York this week and I hope that the resolution will gain the support of the Security Councit, so certainly I give [Mr Dalyell] that assurance [our itals].

Spokesman: "Well, far be it "Obviously, the timing is from me to unsay anything Mr

able from every point of view our use of force without a new resolution?

> Spokesman: "What I am saying is that Iraq is in breach. It is desirable to have a further Security Council resolution, which is why we're working towards that end."

Question: Desirable, but not

Spokesman: "I choose my

Question: Can I take it, therefore, that you are choosing your words from a script?

Spokesman: "I think you can take that."

Question: Can I ask who I need to speak to, to understand why the Foreign Office is not going as far as the Foreign Secretary?

Spokesman: "Of course we should go as far as the Foreign Secretary. We very often cite chapter and verse of what the Foreign Secretary Line up: An instructor trains student volunteers at a Baghdad college yesterday. Iraq is preparing civilian defence corps in case of attack Photograph: Reuters

Question: But not on this oc-

Spokesman: "Well, I have just said I am not going to unsay anything the Foreign Secretary has said."

Question: All right, but would you go so far as to say, to repeat the words the Foreign Secretary used?

you a gloss, an explanation of the Security Council resolu-

Question: Does that mean we could not take action without a further resolution of the Security Coun-

Question: But are you saying Spokesman: "I have told you as we have legal backing for the much as I am going to tell you." 1991 is the formal ceasefire tion now insist that is all the le-

# Resolutions provide support for hawks and doves

that existing United Nations decisions give them the right to attack Iraq whether Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, goes there or not.

As usual, the language is imprecise. UN Resolution 678 of 29 November 1990, for in-Spokesman: "Yes. I am giving stance, which supplied the green light for Operation Desert Storm, did not meotioo air strikes or invasion, oor even the word "force". But it handed the coalition the right to employ "all necessary means" to evict Iraq from Kuwait, and "restore international peace and stability in the area". The point

Resolution 687 of 3 April

THE US and Britain believe agreement ending the Gulf War. It created Unscom, the weapons inspection body at the centre of the dispute, and demands Iraq "unconditionally accept the destruction, removal and rendering harmless, under international supervision, of all chemical and biological weapons". It makes compliance a pre-coodition for lifting the sanctions which have crippled Iraq's ecocomy.

But the crucial passage is the elliptically phrased paragraph 34, committing the UN to take "such further steps as may be required" to implement the resolutioo, and "to secure gal green light they need. The allied coalition against Saddam Hussein is of course a shadow of its former self, reduced to little more than Britain and the United States, with the tacit backing of the smaller Gulf States and the distinctly uneasy blessing of most of the traditional European allies. But most important for Washington, the formulaic authorisations of 1990 and 1991 are intact - which explains why US has been so uneasy about

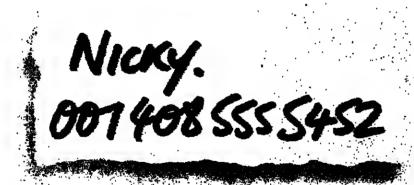
going back to the UN at all. At best (as it has in fact happened), protracted deliberations in New York would merely peace and security in the area". advertise differences among of the oil embargo and other Those who favour military actine P-5 — the five permanent, sanctions against Iraq, leaves veto-wielding, members of the scant doubt of what would have

Security Council, At worst, the US and Britain might have found themselves in the position of vetoing a majority resolution which would have diluted Resolution 687 (and, they would argue, Resolutioo 678 hefore that) - or of sponsoring a motion renewing the right to use force, only to see it rejected by other P-5 members. Not exactly a resounding international mandate for a savage aerial

bombardment of Iraqi targets. Indeed, the categoric joint rejection of the use of force yeswould clear the way to a lifting

occurred. Thus, assuming he does go to Baghdad, Mr Annan will bring no more than the "common advice" of the P-5 a mandate perhaps, but something short of a UN resolution.

But advocates of an attack claim that having flouted 687s requirements, Iraq has breached the ceasefire terms and thus returned itself to a state of war with the allies. And if the UN does not act to enforce its resolutions. argues Sir Robin Renwick, the former British Ambassador to Washington, it might as well pull terday by Russia and China, in out of the resolutions business favour of a political solution that altogether. To which, of course. critics would reply: if Iraq, theo



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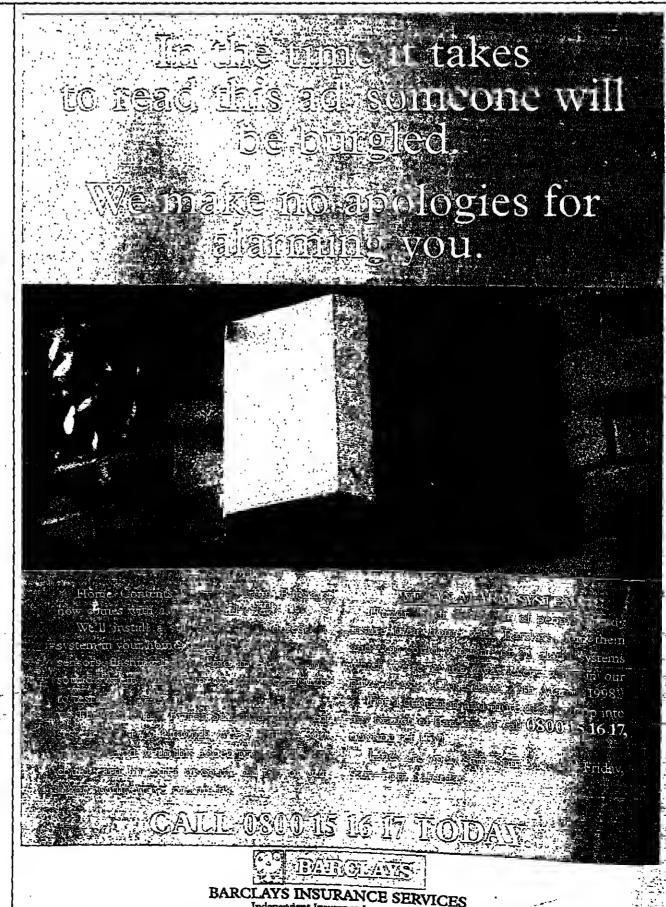
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By Ramond Whitaker in Kuwat City

BAHRAIN, the base for US Navy varships which would deliver he hulk of any armed strike against Iraq, yesterday joined the growing number of Gulf slaes expressing strong opposition to military action to solve the risis.

"The fist priority should be given to the diplomatic effort and a peaceful solution to the crisis, no matter what it takes, because we fear the other alternative in his confrontation will be no les than a catastrophe to this egion, the Arab world and the Middle East." said Bahrain'. Crown Prince. Sheikh Hamacal-Khalifa. The dangerous corsequences of a military showd wn "could not be accepted or the Gulf, regional or international levels".

While the Gulf's oil monarchies have no desire to see Saddam Hussein holding weapons of mass destruction, they fear the unpredictable consequences of a military campaign the objectives of waich are less clear cut and much harder to achieve than in 1991. Apart from the possibility of retaliation by Iraq. Sheikh Khalifa's comments reflect their con-

doves

cern that successful military action against President Saddam could simply increase the dangers they face. Seven years ago, the Western allies discovered that near-unanimous support in the Arab world for the removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait quickly evaporated when it came to ousning the Iraqi leader himself.

Even if he were to be significantly weakened, the Sunni Muslim states of the Gulf believe, it could lead to the hreak-up of Iraq, creating an unstable Shia Muslim entity on their borders which would inevitably look towards tran, "I raq, the most secular state in the Arah world, is regarded as virgin territory by Islamic extremists," said a Kuwaiti analyst. "Sunni and Shia elements are vying for position in the power vacuum which would result if Saddam departs."

Some of that unease was reflected by Sheikh Khalifa, who said yesterday: "No Arab would accept a military strike against another Arab country ... if it is not itself the aggressor ... as happened in the 1990 invasion of Kuwait. The current situation between Iraq and the United Nations is different to that." Bahrain was following oth-

er Gulf monarchies, such as the United Arab Emirates, in openly trying to slow the increasing momentum towards military action. On Monday, the UAE cabinet said it "rejected the use of force against Iraq and demanded a solution to the crisis by peaceful means". Qatar's foreign minister, Sheikh Hamad al-Thani, was due to return yesterday frnm a meeting with President Saddam in Baghdad. He is the most senior Gulf representative to go to Iraq since

Even Saudi Arabia, which suffered missile attacks and a Iraqi troop incursion in 1991, has refused to allow US forces to use its bases, and King Fahd has referred specifically to Iraq's "territorial integrity". He called for diplomacy to be exhausted to hring the crisis over weapons inspections to an end.

the Gulf War.

Kuwaii, where 6,000 US ground troops are stationed and another six Stealth fighterbombers are on the way, has avoided public comment on the lack of support in the Gulf Cooperation Council for a military solution. Last week, it hosted a meeting of GCC foreign ministers which stressed that no member of the organisation would itself take part in any attacks.



Protect and survive: An Israeli soldier helps with a gas mask at a distribution centre yesterday Photograph: AP

# Hamas puts Israel on notice of revenge

Bỳ Eric Silver

THE military wing of Hamas threatened yesterday to attack Israeli targets if the United States takes military action against Saddam Hussein.

In a statement distributed in Gaza yesterday, the Islamic militants' Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades said: "We will not stand with our hands tied if the Iraqi people and their children, or any other Arab or Muslim people, are subjected to US military at-

"We will answer this in our special way by hitting the Zionist heartland and its monstrous entity. We consider this a continuation of our holy struggle against the Zionist enemy."

Hamas has killed dozens of Israeli civilians in suicide bomhings over the past two years. In the most recent of these, 21 died in a Jerusalem market and a shopping centre last August and September.

Since then, Israeli and Palestinian security services have weakened Hamas by smashing key West Bank cells. Israel last night dismissed the threat as "bombastic rhetoric". Israeli spokesmen do not underestimate the group's capacity to strike again, but question whether it needs the pretext of Saddam Hus-

Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, Hamas's founder and spiritual mentor, said yesterday: "People have feelings, and the Palestinian and Arab people are boiling at what is happening in Iraq. It would be natural if there were a suitable reaction to US injustice."

He urged Arabs to boycott American goods. "If we can't fight them militarily."

# Chances of peaceful solution rests on UN offer to Iraq

By Rupert Comwell

and John Carlin in Washington

The chances of a diplomatic solution to the Iraq crisis were hanging last night by the thread of a visit to Baghdad by the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, carrying an agreed joint offer from the five permanent members of the Security Coun-

As yet more United States weaponry moved to the Gulf, President Jacques Chirac of France warned the visiting Iraqi

Foreign Minister, Mohammed Saced al-Sahhaf, in Paris that "time was running out" for a diplomatic solution, and that his country faced "extremely serious risks" if it continued to bar its so-called "presidential sites" from inspection by Unscom ex-

But there were signs that Iraq might just be edging towards a climbdown, and the outlines of a diplomatic solution that might be acceptable even to Britain and the US, the two hawks on the Security Council, were beginning to emerge.

This could he in the form of an 'Unscom-plus', providing unfettered access for UN inspectors team accompanied by diplomats or other officials.

Elaboration of a proposal along these lines was the prime task of a further session in New York last night between Mr Annan and representatives of the "P-5." British officials hinted that a deal was

"very close." But whether the arrangement would satisfy Washington's insistence on the "integrity of the Unscom" mission remained to he seen. Unscom, said the US

Ambassador to the UN, Bill Richardson, "must be the key; if must run everything." And in a televised ad dress broadcast live from the pentagon, President Clinton was as resolute as ever. In his toughest warning yet tn Saddam Hussein, he declared his determination "to do the right thing" for future generations in the event of diplo-

to deliver a solution. "If we fail in respond today, Saddam and all those who would follow in his footsteps will be emboldened tomorrow by the

PERSONAL LOANS

macy, his preferred option "by far" failing

knowledge that he can act with impunity, even in the face of a clear message from the United Nations Security Council and clear evidence of weapons of mass destruction," the President said.

He also issued a veiled warning to mr Annan, "To be a genuine solution, and not simply one that glosses over the remaining problem, a diplomatic solution must include or meet a clear, immutable, reasonable, simple standard.

"Iraq must agree and soon, to free, full unfettered access to these sites anywhere

in the country," the President said noting that those were the terms Saddam agreed with the UN at the end of the Gulf War. "If he accepts them, force will not be nec-

"If he refuses to, or continues to evade his ohligations through more tactics of delay and deception, he and he alone will be to hlame for the consequences."

Now all eyes are on Mr Annan. He will announce today whether he will go to Baghdad, as everyone (except perhaps the Americans) seems to wish.

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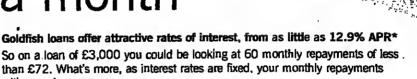
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lan Rickson prepares to step up in the world Photos: Peter Payne/Geraint Lewis

# Upstairs, downstairs

Whatever you do, don't ask lan Rickson if Stephen Daldry's is a hard act to follow. Sarah Hemming meets the new man in charge at the Royal Court

When the Royal Court announced last August that Ian Rickson was to be its new artistic director, a ripple of polite surprise ran round the arts media pond. One of the most significant jobs in English theatre had been given to a director who was "unknown" or "little-known", depending on which paper you read. Rickson now responds to the description with a phlegmatic shrug. "It's far more interesting for the papers to say 'Man on Street Given Job' than 'Safe Internal Appointment'," he says, good-naturedly.

In fact, to regulars at the theatre, his work and name were anything but unknown. As an associate director to Stephen Daldry, he helped to navigate the Court's passage through the past five years, surely one of the most exciting periods of the theatre's history. He staged some of the critical new plays, most significantly Jez Butterworth's Mojo, which he read, seized upon and steered straight on to the main stage - a daring manoeuvre with a début script. His most recent pro-duction is The Weir, Conor McPherson's award-winning piece, which is about to reopen on the larger stage. His instinct and passion for new writing is as evident as his pride in the theatre he works for.

"I think that, where the Court is, that's where playwriting is in the country," he says. "When I arrived, there'd been six new plays downstairs, the theatre upstairs had been shut, and playwriting was in a rather depressing position in the culture. The energy was with classics and directors as auteurs. And I think that, as the Court has altered, playwriting has moved into a position of centrality in the culture. What I'm boping is that we've really won ourselves a mandate for consolidation."

Though his statements can sound a touch New Labour, Rickson is a warm and instantly likeable person. He is not in the least pompous or affected, and he addresses questions with genuine concentration. His style is courteous but informal - he conducts the interview curled up on a sofa in his stockinged feet - and he clicks

a point. But while he is approachable and dis-

armingly modest, one also gets the impression that he is pretty focused. This is a man who can talk energetically about the state of theatre while eating sushi - with chopsticks - with uncanny dexterity.

He will need all his energy and determination when he takes over his new joh in April. His pronouncements about the Court's role might sound grand, but they are largely true. The wave of young writing that has poured out of the theatre during Daldry's leadership has brought a fizz and excitement to new drama, reasserting its relevance.

The theatre's temporary exile in the West End, while its Sloane Square huilding is refurbished, has lent a huzz to the area. The theatre has worked hard and is riding high. But this is a precarious position. The very essence of its success lies in unpredictability. If audi-

ences start to know what to expect, the theatre's programme could soon seem as stale as a season of boulevard comedies. The impetus, Rickson agrees, could vanish in a moment. But, he adds, "the thing about waves is there is always another one coming. You've got to he clever enough to work out

So what of the next wave? Can we expect more of the youthful anger that has surged through the most recent one? Rickson, pointing out that what fuels such anger is a deep-felt compassion, maintains that the Court has "a duty" to present that work. The Weir, however, has proved a complete contrast; a haunting and profoundly moving piece about loss, set in an Irish pub.

Rickson admits it was a relief not to call in the fight director for once. "In The Weir the most angry moment is a . slight argument which is very quickly hushed up with a handshake," he says, laugh-

ing. "It's so hard to be general about movements... but I think there is a more personal, even spiritual, strain coming through now, which is perhaps part of the seeking time we're living in. You do want to work against preconceptions all the time. The trick is always to be as responsive as possible."

He is mindful, however, of the dangers existing writers and provide continuity and a different feel to it; you can seldom see 5000)

security for them. In his first season, a new play by Sarah Kane, who wrote the notorious Blasted, will be mounted on the main stage, and he has already commissioned a third play from her. His dream for the Court, he says, is clear: to transfer "that energy that has been so potent in the theatre upstairs to the theatre downstairs".

The challenge doesn't end with the programming, however. Rickson has to step into the shoes of the charismatic Stephen Daldry, whose charm alone has been the subject of an entire newspaper feature. It must be rather like coming up behind an older brother who was captain of the rugby team. Is Daldry a hard act to follow?

"In the first interview I did I might have said something like that," says Rickson, sounding just slightly defensive.



For Conor McPherson's 'The Weir', Rickson got his cast to practise drinking the exact amount of alcohol that is consumed in the play; for Joe Penhall's 'Pale Horse', however, he had them visit a morgue

> "It's become something of a cliché and something I wish I'd never said. You want things to be a hard act to follow because that makes it much harder. It would be much easier to take over something that was really rundown and spruce it up."

Rickson's strongest card when he applied for the job was his track record on stage. He seems to have a rare affinity of being overly seduced by the new. Part with new writing and a falent for workof his brief, he feels, is to keep faith with ing with it. Every production of his has Duke of York's, London WC2 (0171-565

his hand in the finished product. He seen able to get under the skin of a play and can find the moral centre and the copassion in even the toughest piece. le starts when he picks up the script.

"The first question," he says, "is 'des it touch me? I always start from an esotional basis. And then I look for the teling of heing taken into another word."

When he is rehearsing, he literally takes his cast into another world by going on field trips. This is a strateg that is more fun with some plays than others: for The Weir, he got the cast to pactise drinking the exact amount of alcohol that is consumed in the play; for Joe Pahall's Pale Horse, however, he had ther visit a

"Ian's approach is very holisic." says Conor McPherson, author of the Weir. "He wants the playwright present at au-

ditions and a cast wo will get on well. So the amosphere is very good in chearsals, and the actors aways look comfortable on sage. I think he's a very secur person in himself, so he's lot afraid to let things go. Hes a brave di-rector, too. He brought out a tenderness inmy play that I would have seen too embarrassed to joint out, if I

had directed i.

Rickson's ability to put
one at ease and his infectious passion for the work will clearly stand him in good stead as artific director. But there remains the personal danger, experienced by many fine directors, that running a huilding can steal creative en-ergy. Rickson is determined that this won't happen to him - despite the fact that he has to raise another £4m to complete the theatre's refurhishment and oversce a smooth transition back to Sloane Square.

"I really want to protect the purely creative side of the job - heing in rehearsal and working with pla wrights -

because that's what it's about," he says. But actually, running a building is a very creative thing. If you are in rehearsals, that is the hottom line of what the theatre is about. And hringing that energy into discussions about toilet-rollholders is thoroughly appropriate."

'The Weir' previews from today and opens

THE INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT

# £10 Conran lunch

The Independent and Independent on Sunday in association with Terence Conran are delighted to offer readers the opportunity to enjoy lunch or early evening supper at six of London's top restaurants throughout February for £10

Until Saturday February 28th, the following establishments are offering readers a two course lunch or early evening supper for just £10 per person.

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To participate in the offer simply collect one token (tokens will be printed every day until Saturday February 28th) and then telephone the restaurant of your choice quoting yourself as an Independent diner. On your arrival at the restaurant you should present your token in order to qualify for the offer. Each token is valid for a complete table booking. The tokens will be valid for one week only, and will be dated accordingly. To continue to participate in the offer, simply collect a token from the week in which you wish to dine. Pre-booking is essential and all bookings are subject to availability.

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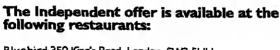
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Mezzo 100 Wardour Street, London, WIV 3LE 0171 314 4000 Lunch 12noon - 3pm, early evening supper 6pm - 7pm dosed Saturday lunchtime, open Sunday 12pm - 4pm

Quaglino's 16 Bury Street, St James's, London, SWIY 6AL Lunch 12noon - 3pm, early evening supper 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Zinc Bar & Grill 21 Heddon Street, London, WIR 7LF 0171 255 8899 The special 3 course menu is available between 12noon and 7pm between Monday and Wednesday the offer is extended until 11 pm\*

The offer is available 7 days a week at all six restaurants Closed from 6pm on Sunday Offer not available after 6pm on February 14

# So foul and fair a play I have not seen

Sue Wilson watches the 'Scottish Play' come home and Heiner Müller flirt with Laclos

Opening the Glasgow Citizens Theatre's new staging of the already superstition-fraught "Scottish Play" on Friday the 13th must have cranked up the first-night nerves by several extra notches, hut director Robert David MacDonald and his cast made it through with no untoward upsets - although, equally, there was little else about this main-house production to lodge it long-term in the memory.

Apart, that is, from its remarkable economy. Shakespeare's 30 roles have been boiled down for just 10 actors, with many minor characters excised and other bit-parts cannily doubled up, while the running-time has been pruned to an interval-free 100 minutes.

Kenny Miller's design, it's true, sets off the drama in characteristically arresting style. Starkly elegant yet vividly atmospheric, it combines Gothic with futuristic touches to create an effectively out-of-time feel. its three long stairways framing reflective or translucent silver backdrops, artfully played upon by Paul Soriey's lighting. Despite - or at points, perhaps, because of - its bold hrevity, however, the action unfolding within the set never seems to find its flow, with many of the cast seemingly struggling for a consistent handle on Shakespeare's rhythms. Some sequences seem over-hurried and under-expressed, while others are interrupted by long, awkward pauses, interjected as if to prove that there's no real rush.

MacDonald's male witches prove a smart device; though their formal diction and air of detached hauteur leach some of

tency from their appearances. Cross-casting, however, highlights the sexual ambivalence suggested by Shakespeare's reference to "beards", as well as enabling the three actors to reappear in many of the supporting roles, cleverly hlurring still further the play's divide, or

overlap, between foul and fair.

The production's central weakness, though, lies with its central player. Gerard Murphy falls gamely but ineffectually hetween the two main stools presented by Macbeth's character: neither is he forceful or charismatic enough for an anti-bero, nor is be the small man overwhelmed by events and a domineering wife. Not that Anne Myatt's witchily voluptuous Lady Macbeth lacks authority, but she does lack a clearly defined foil or focus for her efforts.

Elsewhere, "sturdily proficient" best sums up most of the performances; faint praise which reflects a prevailing haziness of characterisation and contrast - Stuart Bowman's Macduff being an honourable exception - and an overall dearth of synergy about the ensemble work. And maybe it's a petty-minded quibble, but in a Scottish production of the Scot-

to find more than one Scottish accent?

Upstairs in the Circle Studio. meanwhile, something completely, hewilderingly - yet somehow compellingly ~ different is unfolding; although, if pushed, one could possibly draw some intriguing parallels be- bracing decadence and corrutween Shakespeare's and Heiner Müller's respective milieux of cancerous malevolence, desperate power-games and violent social disintegration.

A howling air-raid siren pre-

cedes the opening blackout, in an

empty, hare-floored space illuminated by 300-odd naked light-bulbs studding the ceiling. In the darkness, there's an explosion, then the lights come up nn the fallen, dust-smattered figures of a man and a woman. They are, it transpires, the Marquise de Merteuil and her erstwhile lover Valmont, the chief characters from Laclos's Les Liaisons Dangereuses, transposed to some mid-apocalyptic ne'er world where time is punctuated by further explosions, bells ringing to signal mealtimes, and sundry other seemingly meaningless, but inflexible, rules and rituals. Once again the pair are locked in a vicious, vitriolic battle for supremacy or submission - though who wants which re-

the desired necromantic po- tish play, surely one might hope mains teasingly ambiguous It's a frequently bafflin.

piece, Müller's spikily aphoris tic dialogue rarely deigning b link itself into anything resenhling narrative, though the e-. sential themes of sex, dean, mortality, (a)morality, and the attempt to find liberation by ention all surface vividly enough. Quite why the Marquise, however, starts omitting all theLs from her words during he play's middle section is just one of a good many mysteres, given the scarcity of reference to any present external world. The sheer intensity, though,

of Andrea Hart's and Genard McArthur's performances, combined with tremenious vocal and physical discipline, commands the attention even when you don't have a clue what's going on. Each strikes a beautifully counterpointing balance between the mannered and the manic, formality, and animal ferocity: Hart all bottledup, spilling over fully and seething lust; McArthur quieter, more urbane, but impressionably just as poisonous. Rarely will you witness two such complete controlled performances.

In rep to 7 March, Glasgow Citizens Theatre (014) 429 0022).



Dangerous liaisons: at the court of King Macbeth

Photograph: Donald MacLeod

Melanie Rickey checks out hassle-free shopping at the high street's next big thing. Photography by Sheridan Morley

One of the decade's biggest retail gambles is about to begin: oext week a new chaio of women's fashion stores will launch into the fiercely competitive quality end of the high street. But unlike Jigsaw, which opened one store in Hampstead when it launched in 1972 and then grew gradually, Jack will arrive with a bang. Twelve stores by the end of 1998, and 35 by 2000.

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127 AND

Simon Green, its founder and creative director, says Jack is a concept shop for confident women who know what they want from clothes and fashion. and who don't oced to be dictated to from above. He calls it "anti-pigeonholing" and says it is about attitude rather thao age, income, or any other demographic statistic.

Their customer (a thirtyomething career woman with hildren). on the other hand, will prohably quite like Jack because both the clothes and the shops are approachable. "Antipigeonholing?" I don't think so.

Jack has been put together by marketing men who have sat down at a table and decided what husy British womeo want from clothes and shopping at the end of the 20th century. They propose that we want modernity, with ready-made, well-designed clothing solutions all wrapped up in futuristic architecture and suede padded walls designed by Wollpaper\* favourites Softroom. And a clothes veoding machine from Japan which (when it arrives) will dispense acuum-packed T-shirts and undies outside each shop after hours at the touch of a button.

Jack's woman already shops at Jigsaw, Whistles and Nicole Farbi. So bow will they tempt her away? Greeo sees it as an intellectual challenge, "People are nervous of new brands, it won't be easy, but we see the potential," he says. The clothes are certainly unfussy, stylish, safe and very wearable, and nothing costs more than £250. Indeed the collection is carefully worked out to have a place in the wardrobe of today's "I've worked out what suits me". Nineties woman/capsule dresser, and there will be new clothes in store every week to stop her getting bored.

Trousers and suiting are vailable in the nation's favourite hues: black, cocoa, navy, stone and taupe, with pinstripe optional. Their merino, cotton and wool knits in soft shades of raspberry, slate, moss and more taupe come in every conceivable shape, and are excellent for now. They will be popular with women who love the styling of TSE Cashmere but can't afford it. Their slimfit shirts will attract Helmut Lang fans in the same way. Skirts too are available in every colour and length, and it all yorks together.

"It is a very ambitious project, sometimes I would think, 'I must be mad," says Greeo, who comes from a middlemarket fashion hackground and has worked with Fenwicks and House of Fraser. Eventually support came from Rodney East, Etam's ex-managing director, who came out of retirement to become chief executive of Jack. As a team Green and East know the psychology of the high street like the proverbial back of the hand. Together they gathered eight in-

**OUT OF** 

THE CLOSET

Wayne Hemingway





vestors who raised the finance. Despite its obvious middle-

of-the-road approach, and the fact that the clothes only go up to a size 14, Jack does bave some new ideas. There will only be a few so-called "musthave" fashion items on sale. "We know pink will only sell for a week, we won't he going to town oo it," he says of this spring's hottest colour. Io place pink things and their ilk, there will be limited edition carrier bags and glossy coffeetable brochures to take away which will promote their Best of British ideal - just as the name, with its connotations of

the Union Jack, does. Fashion fans will also approve of the clothing labels which will identify when the clothing was bought with details such as "Jack s/s [spring/summer] 98" displayed. Also sure to catch on at other shops are the no-hassle assistants with Polaroid cameras who, instead of

saying "miniskirts are really in this seasoo, you'll get lots of wear out of it," will take a quick photograph of an item for the uncertain shopper to peruse at

adverts for Jack in the March issues of Vogue, Elle and Marie Claire are aimed to intrigue. annoy, and he remembered. People are asking, "What is Jack?" and though it is hard to tell just what the adverts are about (a shop? a person? a hoax?) this was precisely their point. You'll have to decide for

W1. These dates are subject to slight change.

In the first of a new series on fash-

ion celebrities' wardrobe secrets,

Wayne Hemingway of Red or Dead

fame talks to Holly Davies about his

closet secrets and admits to being

a complete clothes junkie, having

never thrown a piece of clothing

"My absolute favourite piece of clothing has

to be my Blue Peter woolly jumper. I bought

it when I was n teenager from a jumble sale 19 years ago. I first wore it when I was a stu-

dent in London and I thought then it looked

a hit grungy and a bit funny. My wife hides

it oow. I haven't worn it for about three years

but discovered it tucked up in the back of my

wardrobe three weeks ago. It's like an old com-

fort blanket, it's shrunken and got boles in

it. I still wear it because it appeals to my sense

of irony. A 37-year-old in a Blue Peter jumper

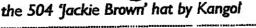
I think is completely sad but brilliant!"

away in his life.

home instead. The Egan Melia designed

The first Jack opens on March 1 at Unit 60, Royal Station Concourse, Windson, and on 7 March at 24 High Street, Marlow. In mid-March two stores open in London, at 192 Westbourne Grove, London W11 and 110 Marylebone High Street, London

Hot thing:





Forget Samuel L Jackson and Robert de Niro. The higgest star of Tarantino's new movie Jackie Brown is Kangol. Barely a frame goes by without Cumhria's finest export - complete with kangaroo logo - being flashed on the silver screen.

Apparently, Mr Jackson is Kangol's number one fan. He

can't get enough of the soft wool peaked caps. If Monica Lewinsky can sell a few thousand more berets for Donna Karan with a few paparazzi shots, just imagine what Mr Jackson will do for Kangol's sales when the movie is released here next month. It's enough to warrant the Key to the Lake District.

strange one that has both baffled and delighted its founders. How could they have predicted that their 50-odd-year-old 504

Hair and make-up: Fiona Moore for Jo Hansford using Aveda Model: Camilla at Storm

Clockwise from above: Navy slash neck cotton rib jumper, £70; navy split miniskirt, £60; navy knee-high socks, £6, by Hue, available from department stores nationwide; black shoes, £45, from Clarks, Regent Street, London WI and stores nationwide, inquiries 0990-785 886.

Ceramic cotton beige shirt, £50.

White short-sleeved cotton polo neck, £40; jeans, £65.

Lime green short-sleeved shirt, £45; lime green cotton knit cardigan, £80.

All clothes by Jack. For further information, call 0171-585 3321





The story of Kangol is a

cap and the terry towelling golfer's hat would become the most wanted accessories of the Eighties by the coolest of the rap pack? Now, with the help of Samuel L Jackson, it's happening for Kaogol all over again. Tamsin Blanchard

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Cafetiere plunger pot will add elegance to any table or occasion an
comes in a choice of three colours; white, deep blue or dark green

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# Ernst Jünger

Halley's Comet during its 1910 passage, when he was a boy of 15. In 1987, he made a special journey to Malaysia for a second glimpse. He was one of the very few writers to have seen the comet twice in his lifetime.

All this is described in Zwei Mal Halley ("Halley Twice", 1988), a book filled with Junger's characteristic meditations on time and place, on dreams. nature, crystals, stars, mountains, the sea, wild unimals and insects, especially butterflies, a passion he shared with Nahokov. Throughout his very considerable body of work, there is an obsession with time, with dates, with temporal coincidences, with the fatidic power of numbers over our hirth and death, in a volume of his journals covering the years 1965-70, Siehzig verweht ("Past Seventy". 1980), he makes this revealing entry at Wilfingen, his home between the Danube and the Black Forest, in sight of the castle of Stauffenberg, on 30 March 1965:

I have now reached the biblical age of three score and ten - a rather strange feeling for a man who, in his i, had never hoped to see his 30th year. Even after my 23rd birthday in 1918. I would gladly have signed a Faustian pact with the Devd: "Give me just 30 years of life, guar-anteed, then let it all be ended."

A similar expression of his fascinated awe of time and numbers appears in an earlier work. An der Zeitmauer ("At the of the most extraordinary examptes of this obsession can be found in a journal entry for "Monday, 8.8.1988" ~

a date with four units. 8 is special four 8's, and a fifth one by subtracting the 1 from the 91. Odin rides an 8-legged horse . . . Dates have often brought me surprises.

One of his many hobbies was the collection of antique sandglasses, on which he was an authority. He also eollected sundial inscriptions.

Ernst Jünger's hirth at Heidelberg is recorded precisely. It fell on 29 March 1895 on the with Cancer in the ascendant. He was the eldest of seven

ERNST JUNGER first beheld lescence in Hanover, where his heat of hattle on the Western prosperous parents settled Front It remains one of the shortly after his birth. They possessed a beautiful villa by a lake, where Ernst made his first entomological investigations. He soon developed a dislike for bourgeois life, and spent a couple of unhappy years in boarding schools, whose reports complain of his dreaminess and lack of interest in the boring curriculum. He was later to write: I had invented for myself a sort of distancing indifference that allowed me to remain connected to reality only by an invisible thread like a

> He spent hours reading unauthorised books, and with his brother lived in an exalted universe of their own. They would go wandering round the countryside, and Ernst struck up happy friendships with tramps and gypsies. He was already the Waldganger (wild man of the woods), the anarchist hero of his 1977 novel Eumeswil.

It was the beginning of an

unending passion for travel and

exotie lands. He took the first big step in 1913 by running away from home to join the Foreign Legion, in which he saw service in Oran and Sidi-Bel-Abbes. After five weeks, his father bought him out. Ernst was to write about this escapade in Kinderspielen ("Children's Games", 1936). His father promised that if he passed his Abitur (schoolleaving examination) he would be allowed to join an expedition Wall of Time". 1959). But one to Mount Kilimanjaro. So Jünger swotted away at the Gildermeister Institut, whose grim atmosphere is evoked in Die Steinschleuder ("The Catapult", 1973), a novel in the great tradition of German school stories.

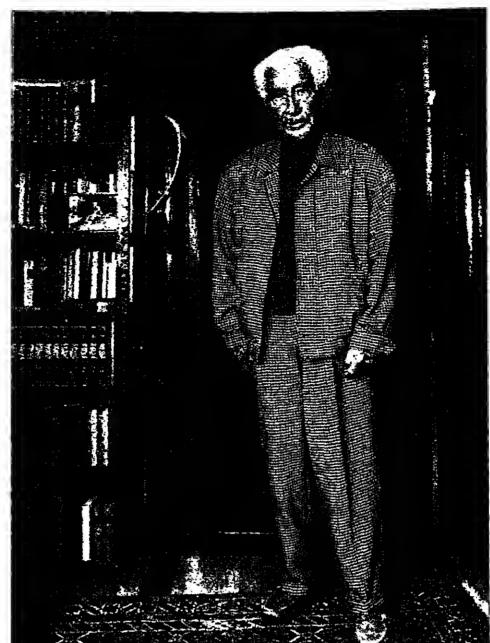
Jünger passed his exam in August 1914 and at once volunteered for the army, in which he fought on the French front with exceptional courage all through the First World War. Wounded four times, he received the highest German military honour, the Order of Merit created by Friedrich II: be stroke of noon, under Aries, outlived all those who also received it. Out of his wartime experiences was born Stahlchildren, one of whom, his bel- gewittern ("Storm of Steel", er work, Das Aladdinproblem oved brother Friedrich Georg 1920), which he had to publish (1983), in which he asks who will (who died in 1977), was also a at his own expense. This story writer, a poet and philosopher. of the horrors of modern war- tive science and dehumanising archist, hostile to the Weimar Junger spent the greater fare was drawn from his wartime technology: "With the heavens Republic, yet be refused all

greatest works about the First World War, along with those by Erich Maria Remarque, Henri Barbusse, e.e. cummings, David Jones and Lucien Descaves. Jünger stayed in the army

until 1923, when he left and began studying zoology at the University of Leipzig and at Naples. He married Gretha von Jeinsen and his son Ernst was born in 1926. In 1927 they moved to Berlin, where he became a member of the national revolutionary group led by Niekisch (arrested by Hitler in 1937 and kept in a concentration camp until the end of the Second World War). He also got to know Ernst von Salomon, Bertolt Brecht, Ernst Toller and Alfred Kuhin, as well as the publisher Rowohlt. He began travelling widely, to Sicily, Rhodes, the Dalmatian coast, Norway, Brazil and the Canaries, and made the acquaintance of André Gide in Paris. These travels had a great influence on all his writings, most noticeable in his superb novel Heliopolis (1949) - the most elegantly learned, eloquently written and hauntingly convincing science-fiction story ever written.

Goebbels tried in vain to draw him into the ranks of the Nazi hierarchy in 1931, and he refused to be elected to the German Academy of Letters because it was dominated by national socialist timeservers. In 1932 Jünger produced a very significant book, Der Arbeiter ("The Worker"), which is nevertheless one of his least-known works. It was long out of print until Martin Heidegger, himself besmirched with Nazi collaboration, persuaded him to risk letting it be reissued in 1963. It presents the mythical figure of standardised modern man as "The Worker" whose pragmatism and nihilism destroy the old traditional categories of peasant, soldier and priest, foretelling an unprecedented reversal of temporal power in our collapsing cultures where an intellectual and artistic élite has no place.

Related to this theme is a latruh the magic lamp of destrucpart of his childhood and ado- notebooks, often written in the empty, we live in the Age



lunger; an aristocrat of letters

of Uranium; how can we believe our modern Aladdin's lamp will not produce some unimaginable monster?"

Der Arbelter is also an important theoretical study of the political history of the Thirties in Germany, and has been considered by critics like Georg Lukacs and Walter Benjamin to have been the ideological matrix of national-socialist ideas. But Junger's links with national socialism were infinitely complex. He was a serving officer. partisan of the revolutionary right, a sort of conservative anhonours and promotions.

Unable to bear the rising tide of Hitlerism, he left Berlin for the quiet of the countryside at Kirchhorst, where in February 1939 he began the painful drafting of Auf den Marmorklippen. Its anti-Nazi tone is obvious, but the book was published in September, the month war was deelared. On the Marble Cliffs was part of my wartime reading, and I well remember the excitement it caused when the translation

Lehmann just after the war. With the outbreak of war. Jünger was given the rank of captain and took part in the invasion of France, during which he did his utmost to spare civil- lach and Drieu de la Rochelle.

was published by John

sincere as that for artists like Braque and Picasso, whose studios he frequented. His journals of this period are studded with all these famous names. However, he was indirectly implicated in Stauffenberg's attempt to assassinate

while his admiration for

Cocteau. Sasha Guitry and ac-

tresses like Arletty was as

Hitler in July 1944, and requested to leave the army and return home to Kirchhorst, where he spent the rest of the war, composing a text on Die Friede ("Peace"). His son Ernst, in prison for opposition to Hitler, was despatched to the Italian front and killed on 29 November in the marble quarries at Carrara by Allied snipers. After German defeat and

capitulation, despite his firm denials of having supported Nazism, Jünger encountered the shrill hostility of Marxist and socalled liberal critics who accused him of being its predecessor. They even criticised his scholarly, noble, refined style, calling it frigid, élitist and academic.

He writes of his experiments with drugs in Annaherungen ("Approaches", 1970), influenced by Aldous Huxley's works on the same subject. He finally settled at Wilfingen in the house of the Master Forester attached to the ancestral home of his executed friend Graf Claus Schenk von Stauffenberg. where in 1959 he founded the literary review Antaios with Mircea Eliade. By 1977, his father, mother, brother and wife had all died. He remarried, taking as his wife Liselotte Lohrer, a professional archivist and literary scholar.

All through the Seventies and Eighties Jünger travelled widely. In 1979, he visited Verdun and was awarded the town's Peace Medal, In 1982 he received a final literary consecration with the award of the City of Frankfurt's Goethe Prize. which aroused violent protest among his detractors. In 1984. he again made a pilgrimage to Verdun, with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Francois Mitterrand to pay homage to the victims of two world wars.

In 1992, there was extraorpraised the characters and writ- anti-Nazi stance with the disings of Chardonne. Celine covery of a top secret document proving that his fate was in the balance just before the Third Germany 17 February 1998.

Reich's capitulation and during the final days Hitler spent in the Wolfs-Schanze, the very headquarters where he was wounded by the Stauffenberg bomb. The document is dated De-

cember 1944. It is addressed by Dr Freisler, president of the Volksgericht (People's Court) to Martin Bormann, Hitler's right-hand man. Freisler informs Bormann that the proceedings to be taken against Captain Junger are to be cancelled. Jünger had been indicted on account of his novel  $O\pi$ the Marble Cliffs and the "defeatist" opinions he had expressed at his old colleague Commandant Stülpnagel's HO in Paris, not long before the latter's suicide. Freisler reveals that on 20 November 1944 the Führer himself had given the order by telephone from the Wolfs-Schanze that the matter was not to he pursued any further. Freisler ends his letter with "Heil Hüler!", then adds a postscript: "I am sending you three dossiers on the affair. The Führer wishes to have his orders executed immediately."

In his Journals, Jünger notes that the Gestapo had described him at that period in Paris as "an impenetrable, highly suspect individual". He comments in a 1992 interview:

Il was no surprise to me. After all, it conformed to the paners of my horoscope, Ever since my schooldays I've been accustomed to that kind of

Ernst Jünger's work is all of a piece - highly literary, beautifully sonorous, excitingly visual, intellectually profound and stimulating. It is the life work of an aristocrat of letters. and one of the best tributes to it has been made by another literary patriarch, Julien Gracq: The hard, smooth enamelling that seems to armour his prose against the touch of too great a familiarity would seem in us perhaps a little frigid if we did not know, and if we never lost consciousness of the fact while reading, that it has been tempered in an

That is a fitting enlogy for one of the greatest writers of the 20th century.

James Kirkup

Ernst Jünger, writer: born Heidelberg, 1925 Gretha von Jeinsen (died 1960: two sons deceased), 1962 Liselatte Lohrer, died Wilflingen,

# Professor A. J. Aitken



to A Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue

A. J. AITKEN had much in ondary School, in Midlothian, common with the legendary Sir James Murray, first editor of the Oxford English Dictionary. With Sir James Craigie and David Murison, they belonged to a tradition of Scottish lexicographers.

Aitken was the foremost authority on the Scots language and an influential teacher, but his most enduring monument will he 4 Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, to which he devoted nearly 40 years of his life. This great historical dictionary spans the period from the Middle Ages to 1700. Seven volumes have been published since its first fascicle appeared in 1931, and it is due r completion in the year 2000.

Adam Jack Aitken was born in Edinburgh in 1921. He was educated at Lasswade Sec-

and Edinburgh University. As with many of his generation, his education was interrupted by the Second World War. He served in the Royal Artillery. and in June 1944 was among the first to take part in the Normandy landings. In 1947 he graduated from Edinburgh with first class bonours in English

Language and Literature. Thenceforward he comhined a taxing double career as (exicographer and lecturer. From 1947 to 1956 he was assistant to Sir William Craigie, first editor of A Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, and from 1956 to 1986 he was himself editor. For much of this time he was first Assistant Lecturer, then Senior Lecturer, and finally Reader at Edinburgh University, lecturing on English and also

as a university subject. His disunction as a scholar was rewarded by many honours. In 1981 the British Academy awarded him the Sir Israel Gollancz Prize: in 1983 he received the degree of DLitt from Edinburgh University: and in 1965 he was appointed an Honorary Professor. Jack Aitken revolutionised

the scope and the methodology of A Dictionary of the Older Scouish Tongue. He extended the reading programme of both books and manuscripts, and greatly increased the dictionary's data-base. He also increased the number of ouotations illustrating the forms and senses of words.

He steered the project through several financial crises

pioneering the teaching of Scots and other problems of funding and staffing. He regarded the Dictionary not simply as a collection of old words, but as a cultural asset comparable to the national museums: a rich source of material on innumerable aspects of Scottish life. law, history and popular traditions. The Dictionary is of immense value to historians, and to editors of the early Scottish poets. such as Dunbar and Henryson.

> Aitken was an effective teacher, and many of his nndergraduate courses were attended by colleagues. Most of the present editorial team at the Dictionary were his pupils, and who now tecture in the language departments of Scottish universities. He was interested in

and present - not just its vo- heart was the best-selling Concabulary, but its syntax, orthography and phonology, and its status as a minority language. He is one of the select hand of philologists to have had a linguistic "Law" named after him. "Aitken's Law" - the so-called "Scottish Vowet Length Rule". A collection of his numerous but scattered articles is to be published shortly.

Photograph: François Lagarde

ians and protect public monu-

ments. Posted to Paris, he be-

came a well-known figure in the

literary salons of the time like

the Thursday reunions of artists

and writers at Florence Gould's.

He made good friends of au-

thors like the acid-tongued crit-

ic Leautand and above all

Marcel Jouhandeau, whose

scholarly ease and wit in writ-

ing seemed to Jünger excep-

tional at a time of growing

artistic barbarity. Even after

their condemnation for collab-

Iwhom he did not like), Brasil-

He was remarkably selfless in answering the queries of younger scholars. Over the years he served on innumerable committees and public bodies that were concerned with the Scots language, or, more genhe inspired several of those erally, with lexicography, or the uses of computing in linguistics. He was a consultant to The Middle English Dictionary (one caused by the collapse of every aspect of the language of and The Dictionary of Old Eng-otically furnished flat on the the Maxwell publishing empire), the Scottish Lowlands, past lish, Particularly close to his edge of the New Town, Jack

cise Scots Dictionary (1985); he was an adviser to its editorial team, and provided for it a succinct "History of Scots".

Aitken also made important contributions to preserving and publicising the literary beritage of Scotland. In 1975 he was a co-founder of the successful triennial conferences on early Scottish literature and language. He was an active vicepresident of the Scottish Text Society, on whose Council he had served since 1962.

Jack Aitken was a good raconteur, with a warm and convivial personality. Many will recall the highly international gatherings at Jack and Chandra Aitken's home in Lockharton Gardens, or latterly in their ex-

loved, above all, a fine malt he was, as one Italian friend put it, il maestro della whiskologia. He showed great glee over a recent invitation to give a lecture on the Scots language, hosted by the Scotch Malt Whisky Society. In his later years - despite increasing ill-health - he delighted in foreign travel; one of his last trips was to South Korea.

Priscilla Bawcutt

Can

Adam Jack Aitken, lexicographer: born Edinburgh 19 June 1921; Assistant Editor, A Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue 1947-56, Editor 1956-86; Assistant Lecturer in English Language, Edinburgh University 1947-65, Senior Lecturer 1965-75, Reader 1975-79, Honorary Professor 1985-98; married 1952 Chandra Manson (three sons, one daughter); died Edinburgh II

# ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen holds an Investiture at auckinghum Palace. The Dutee of Edinburgh, Homorary Felicov, attends a book lounch at the Zoologianl Society of London, Regent's Park, London NWI. The Princess Royal, President, National Ridling Week attends a Press Conference and Reception at Knightsbridge Baracks, London SW7; as President, Royal Yachting Association, attends a Royal Yachting Association Council Meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, London SW1; and as President, Animal Health Trist, attends a Building Industry Dinner at The Dorehester Hotel, Park Lane, London WI. The Dutee of Kent, President in-Chief, the British Racing Drivers' Club, attends a din-British Racing Drivers' Club, attends a din ner at the Royal Automobile Club, Pat Mall, London SWI. mobile Club, Pall Changing of the Guard

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regi-ment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11 am; No 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11,30am, hand provided by the Grenadier Guards. ements for Gazette BIRTHS MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-rial services, Wedding anniversaries, In roriam) should be sent in writing

to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-London E14 3DL, telephoned to 4171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (nockes, functions, Forthcom ments (notices, tunescens, ror tests he submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime

The OBITUARIES e-mail address is

#### Birthdays

Mr Rob Andrew, rugby footballer, 35; Mr M.J. Argent, Chief Constable, North Wales, 53; Mr Michael Buerk, broadcaster, 52; Miss Helen Gurley Brown, author and editor, 76; Miss Phyllis Calvert, actress, 83; Mr Jose-Maria Canizares, golfer, 51; Miss Jean E. Cooke, painter and lectur-er on art. 71; Miss Sinead Cusack, actress, 50: Mr Roy Dean, former diplomat, 71; Mr Phillip DeFreitas, cricketer, 32; Mr Leu Deighton, novelist, 69; Lt-Gen Sir Donald Dunstan, former Governor of South Australia, 75: Professor Edward Edwards, former Vice-Chancellor, Bradford University, 84; Mr Cyril English, president, Nationwide Housing Trust, 75; Mr Miles Forman, film director. 66; Sir Charles Frossard, a former judge of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey and Bailiff of Guernsey, 76; Mr Graeme Garden, actor and scriptwriter, 55; Miss Tessa Hilton, Deputy Editor, the Express. 47; Dr James Houston, Emeritus Physician. Guy's Hospital, 81; Sir Peter Laurence, former ambassador, 75; Miss Pru Leith, cookery editor and restaurateur, 58; Mr Peter Luft MP, 43: Professor William Mckane, Hebrew and Oriental language scholar, 77; Sir Arthur Norman, former chair-

man, De La Rue, 81; Mr Jack

Palance, actor, 78; Lord Paul chair-

man, Caparo Group, 67; Mr Bobby

Robson, head coach, Barcelona

Football Club, Spain, 65: Miss Gre-

ta Scaechi, actress, 38; Miss Cybill

Shepherd, actress, 48; Mr Ned Sher-

nn, television presenter and pro-ducer, 67; Mr Richard Thomas;

Mr John Travolta, actor, 44; Sir Max Williams, former President, the Law Society, 72: General Sir John Wilsey former Commander-in-Chief, Land

Anniversaries Births: Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, statesman and historian, 1608; Ernst Mach, physicist. 1838; André Breton, poet and art critic, 1896. Deaths: Fra Angelico (Gio-vanni da Fiesole), painter, 1455; Martin Luther, Protestani reformer, 1546: Michelangelo Buonarroti, artist, 1564; James John Corbett ("Gentleman Jim"), pugllist, 1933. On this day: John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress was published, 1678; the Order of the Bath was revived, 1725; a direct telegraph line was established between London and New Zealand 1876; Germany's blockade of Britain by submarine began, 1915; a constitutional monarchy was proclaimed in Nepal by the King, 1951. Today is the Feast Day of St Angilbert, St Colman of Lindisfarne, St Flavian of Constantinople, St Helladius of Toledo St Leo and Paregorius, St Simeon of Jerusalem and St Theotonius.

#### Lectures

Tate Gallery: James Heard, "Painting in the Age of the Common Man; Hogarth and his contemporaries

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford (Oxford Amnesty Lectures): Professor Jonathan Glover, "Eugenics and

## LAW REPORT: 18 FEBRUARY 1998

# Court may order sentence to be consecutive

Regina v Anomo; Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, Mr Justice Harrison and Judge Dyer) 2 February 1998.

A CROWN COURT has power to order that a custodial sentence in respect of a criminal conviction should run consecutively to a sentence for contempt imposed by a county court.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of Taiye Olokun Anomo against a sentence of four years' imprisonment for offences of dishonesty, which was expressed to be consecutive to a term he was aircady serving for contempt of court.

In December 1996 the apprison by the county court for 18 months for contempt of

en or otherwise interfere with his wife. Thereafter, on a number of occasions he had assaulted his wife, and had been guilty of other breaches of the undertaking. In April 1997 he was sen-

ment by the Crown Court for offences of obtaining property by deception. The judge ordered that that sentence should be consecutive to the term imposed by the county court, taking effect immediately he became due for release. He appealed against his sentence. Grant Van Stone 1 Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the appellant; Mark Ellison as unicus curiae.

pellant was committed to Lord Justice Swinton Thomas said that the appeal raised an issue of principle, court. He had been in hreach namely whether the Crown

not to assault, molest, threat- that a sentence of imprison- secutively to a term imposed for impose a sentence of imprisment imposed in respect of a criminal conviction be served consecutively to a sentence of imprisonment imposed at an earlier date by the county court for contempt of court.

It was submitted for the aptence to 12 months' imprison- pellant that a civil committal to prison was not necessarity for a fixed period and that, in consequence, it was wrong in principle and contrary to public policy to impose a sentence which was uncertain as to its commencement date. At common law a court exercising its criminal jurisdiction had power to impose consecutive terms in respect of misdemeanours, and a civil contempt was not a misdemeanour.

Counsel acting as amicus had submitted that by statute and under the common law the Crown Court had power to imof an undertaking to that court. Court had the power to order pose a sentence to run con-

a civil contempt of court, and that there was clear authority to support both that proposition, and the proposition that a civil contempt was a misdemeanour. The principle in Rv Wilkes [1770] 19 ST TR 1075, that consecutive sentences could be passed at common law in respect of misdemeanours, had been approved in R v Cutbush [1867] LR 2QB 379 and Rv Greenberg (No 2) (1943) 29 Cr App R 51.

In Lee v Walker [1985] 1 All ER 781 it was held that under the provisions of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 the county court had the same powers as the High Court, and the High Court had an inherent jurisdiction to impose consecutive sentences in appropriate cases where it had the power to imprison. The Crown Court had always had power to

onment for contempt to take effect consecutively to other sentences (see R v Stredder (1997) 1 Cr App R (S) 209).

On the basis of principle and on the basis of the authorities there was, therefore, no doubt that the Crown Court had the power when passing a sentence of imprisonment in respect of a criminal conviction to order that that sentence should run consecutively to a sentence. imposed in the county court for contempt. A court should have the power, if it was just and right, to impose an appropriate and effective sentence. If it were the law that the court could not impose a consecutive sentence, and the appropriate sentence in respect of the criminal offences was a short one, then the offender would suffer

no punishment at all. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister The end of the De Klerks' lengthy marriage mirrors a change affecting their whole nation. By Mary Braid

IT WAS the Valentine's Day bombshell. The former South African president F W de Klerk, 61, has announced that he is divorcing his wife Mariko 60, after 39 years of marriage.

Mr de Klerk's decision to separate came with the usual amendments; the decision had not been easy to take - not least because Marike was opposed to a split - and he had gone through a great deal of pain in

100 mm 10

The Con-

The state of

There were other predictable features. When rumours of trouble in the marriage surfaced a few weeks ago, Mr de Klerk, who shared a Nobel Peace Prize with President Nelson Mandela for ending white minority rule, said he was in the midst of a personal crisis that was horting his family. He pleaded with the media a little space.

At that stage of course there was no mention of another woman but Elita Georgiadis, 45, the wife of a Greek shipping magnate, was already waiting hreathlessly in the wings. Within days that too became public and a home-grown scandal managed to knock Zippergate off South Africa's front pages.

Mrs Georgiadis and her husband, Tooy, it emerged, had been close friends of the de Klerks and the two couples had holidayed together at the member, said: "One can only Georgiadis' English estate and on board their yacht. According to press reports Mr Georgiadis was a great supporter of Mr de Klerk and a contributor National Party coffers.

It is of course not the first time that he has taken South Africa by surprise. In 1990 his decision to unban the ANC and release Mr Mandela stunned the country, and particularly his tribe, the Afrikaners, many of whom regard him as a traitor.

But if the right was poleaxed by the political revolution it is also at sea about the break-up self-imposed two year ban on of the de Klerk marriage. Like whites' God-given right to govern, their union - an outstanding example of a loyal and faithful marriage and tradiuonal family values - had been one of those things Afrikaners could depend on. Suddenly an- years; that revelation has other old certainty went up in

smoke. The Afrikaner establishment Kerk, of which de Klerk is a his decision.

o. Siatu



Photograph: G Rancinian/Sygma

# Part of a wider split

hope and pray that Mr de Klerk churchmen has been precomes to his senses for the glory of God, and for the sake of his wife and family, the Afrikaner and the church."

But the pastor's comments seemed a little dull and outdated against the utterances of Mr de Klerk and Mrs Georgiadis whose heart-on-sleeve comments were heart-warming and at the same time a little embarrassing. He talked of a love that would not be denied despite all his internal conversations with the Almighty and his seeing Mrs Georgiadis; she was interviewed sobbing on a plane bound for Athens about the unintended love that had shattered her life.

prompted speculation that Mr when he gave up the leadership done its best to save the of the beleaguered National marriage, which produced three Party last year apparently to children, now grown-up and make way for a younger man. married. Dr Jan Visser, chair- The new relationship, it is man of the Gereformeerde claimed, had a big influence on

dictable: reaction of the wider public less so. In the dark old days of apartheid, newspapers gave little space to the private lives of public figures and politicians. This is partly because South Africa, torn apart by the liberation war, had bigger things to think about. But a lingering 1950s conservatism also played

its part.

apart, people have tended not to see the divorce as a sign of post-apartheid moral decline (for most that would he a contradiction in terms anyway). While Mrs de Klerk did come out fighting - inextricably linking her marriage to the National Party - public sympathy was Their affair apparently tempered by her widespread unstretches back at least four popularity. Regarded as more husband, Mrs de Klerk is re- neth Meshoe, hlack leader of tions raised over his relationship de Klerk was less than frank membered for her vehement opposition to her son Willem's engagement to a coloured mixed race - South African in

Her current misfortune has

political statements such as her explanation of "coloured" during a lecture to pensioners in

"The definition of a 'coloured' in the population register is someone that is not black, and that is not white, and is also not Indian, in other words a non-person," she told them, "They are the leftovers." One newspaper quipped last Conservative Afrikaners week "Not the only ones,

> In the absence of public outrage there was in fact a fair degree of prurient interest, an indication that south African attitudes are changing or that they changed long ago and the trend of the old regime.

That is not to say that it is the NP's position during Pres- sertive." just Afrikaners who cling to the ident Mandela's divorce from right-wing and racist than her old rules. The Reverend Ken- his wife, Winnie, and the questhe African Christian Democratic Party, last week attacked both Mr de Klerk and President Mandela for the example they were setting to the young.

Mr Meshoe said it was nnprovided newspapers with a acceptable for the President to golden opportunity to run be living with his companion South Africa's divorce rate has

The Independent Scholastic Story of the Year

Competition, now in its sixth successful year, aims to

encourage top writing for the very difficult to please six to nine

year old age group. To help you meet the challenge, some of our

Reaction of Afrikaner through some of her classic Mrs Graca Machel without be- been high for years. Long before the end of apartheid, ing married. He said neither Nowhites bore most responsibilibel Prize winner was helping to re-establish South Africa's ty for that. But in the postmoral fibre. Mr Mandela has apartheid era, black couples are admitted he is unhappy with his divorcing more. living arrangements but says he Black divorce rates were

takes his cue from Mrs Macbel not recorded until the 1994 democratic elections but their whom he says has him "blosnumbers are rocketing. "For soming like a flower". Mrs Machel, a widow, does not some time, the rate [for whites, want to marry again, But most politicians seem indians and coloured) has been about two in five marriages ending in divorce," says Liz keen to keep the personal and political strictly separate in Dooley, a counsellor with the Family Life Centre, a relation-South Africa; eager, perhaps, ship support agency. "It is for a French rather than British model. When asked last week among urban blacks that is now if Mr de Klerk's problems did rising. Emancipation of women not undermine his stance on is having a major impact. There family values, the National Parare many more opportunities was distorted by the restrictions ty said the matter was entirely for black women now and they and saw her after ten days - but private and that that had been are becoming much more as- it was only due to my efforts." I needed to talk to someone f

> If the De Klerk separation is a sign of any post-apartheid loosening up, Miss Dooley suggests, it is part of a relaxation For every moral proscriber taking place all over the world. there are many more South Ending four decades of mar-Africans who see life as a deal riage is painful bul perhaps more complicated than the old the task is less daunting when rules would suggest. Bald sta- you began the dismantling of tistics are testimony to that. apartheid after many more years of white minority rule.

# Those who mourn must queue to be comforted

about the future of your marriage? Stressed out? The solution to any of these problems is the same, nowadays: get yourself a counsellor.

As life becomes ever more demanding, the chance to sit quietly and indulge in talking of nothing but one's own problems and feelings is a temptation many find hard to resist.

But if counselling is the solution, it is harder to find it than you think. Although the last 10 years have seen a huge increase in counselling organisations you still can't just pick up the phone and request a counsellor.

#### ANNABELLE THORPE

People in the most difficult of circumstances are having to wait, for several weeks, or even months, for help.

Jenny, whose mother died last year, handled the bereavement well at first but then became increasingly depressed and anxious. "I always told myself that I would get counselling if I felt I needed it," she says, "and as I began to find it difficult to cope it seemed like a helping hand. Until I began to try to make an appointment. There are no branches of Cruse the National Bereavement counselling charity) in Central London, and the bereavement organisation I did find couldn't offer me an appointment for four weeks. The state I was in, four weeks seemed like a life-

Jenny finally got an ap-pointment with the counsellor attached to her local GP's prac-

tice, but even that wasn't easy. "I had to see a GP who made the referral, but then I didn't hear from the counsellor for over a week. When she did offer me an appointment it was three weeks away. I got more and more panicky because f felt that no-one would help me. Eventually I got a cancellation

"Many of our branches have no simply don't have enough counsellors."

sociation for Counselling he-

ANXIOUS? Bereaved? Ad- lieves that there is a common dicted to shopping? Worried misconception about the numbers of counsellors available. "There seems to be a general media perception that there are thousands of counsellors, available when anyone wants them. The fact is that there are waiting lists - particularly in more rural areas - and the demand for counsellors is far greater than the services provided.

"We are encouraging GPs to take on counsellors - even if it's one for a whole practice. Patients then have access to counselling and some mental health problems can be nipped in the bud by getting fairly immediate attention."

Although GPs can find the funds to employ counsellors, charities do not always have the resources. "We are constantly underfunded," John Dilley says, "and Cruse is a fairly low profile charity. Dying and grief are still considered taboo for many people and they don't want to be associated with a charity that deals exclusively with bereavement."

Organisations offering counselling for other problems have similar delays in offering sessions. London Marriage Guidance, for instance, offers 200 appointments a week - and those are just in the evening but there are still waiting-lists.

"The public attitude to counselling has changed enormously," says Judy Cunnington, its director. "It is no longer seen as a sign of some sort of disorder and there is no stigma. People are much happier about

admitting they need help."
But Ms Cunnington believes a delay might also be helpful in some circumstances. There is a difference, she says, between crisis counselling, which needs immediate help, and relationship counselling. "People have to come to terms with the idea of counselling and It's better to let them adjust rather than rush them straight in to see someone," she says.

But for people in crisis like Jenny, admitting they need help and then finding there is none immediately available can be a huge problem. "Once I realised John Dilley of Cruse admits felt panicky when f couldn't," the delay hetween making the she says. "When I told my call and actually seeing a coun-friends about my experience of sellor can cause problems, trying to get counselling they were amazed. They all thought waiting lists, but there are some the same as me, that getting an that find it difficult to cope with appointment was as easy as the demand," he says. "We making a phone call. It's a shock when you find out that it's not that simple - at a time when Lynn Walsh of the British As- the last thing you need is any kind of shock at all."

## Can you write the story of the year for six to nine year olds?

THE INDEPENDENT Story of the Year 6

Win £2,000 and have your story published

#### most successful novelists and scriptwriters will explain how they set about writing compelling narrative. A.S. Byatt, Booker prize winning author of Possession, Babel Tower, Still Life, Angels and Insects tells Nicole Yeash of the importance to her of research The big picture starts with the details

I USUALLY start a book by getting lots of things that are the same together. Themes, ideas, a period in time. Then I do vast quantities of research. f steep myself in the voices of the era and I tend to read as much as possible. This can take months, really it should take years and it only stops when I feel a spark bring everything together.

I keep vast, exhaustive notebooks of all the information I have collected. This includes detailed plans on the order of the narrative. I write notes before starting a book and then continuously throughout.

In my early life I was constantly interrupted. With children, with teaching and I found that having the notes provided a certain continuity. I might have three or four A4 notebooks per novel which are absolutely full to the hrim. I usually end up making an index just for my notebooks, so I can find the little details as soon as I need them.

I used to go through 20 drafts of a novel, but then discovered that if you are pretty sure what you are going to say before you put pen to paper the process is much easier. I now do one draft in ink and one on my computer.



shouldn't be doing It is important not to write what I call a dead novel. A dead novel is an imitation of other people's works. If your novel is dead then give up on it and do something else. But don't go on and on. The unsuccessful writer

"If you

the slog

of writing,

quite work and doesn't know when to get rid of it. Increasingly, it is important for me to make my books real page turners. The avant garde thing that plot is tedious and you should be rid of it is one of the great mistakes for writers.

hangs on to something that doesn't

There must be narrative. You have got to have motivation in a story. You must make the reader want to know what happens next. Sequence may be I thought the Famous Five children

AS Byatt: story is all-important. You have gnt to draw readers in. don't like Characters never work if they are

based on one person you know. They need to be an amalgamation of at least two different people. The character has got to be independent of the original because this frees you to develop a new identity, which in turn prompts a cerain momentum. Writing is a hard slog. You have got

to do lots of research, but I actually enjoy this side of writing because I keep discovering new things. People confuse the idea of research with school work and that's a problem. If you don't like the slog of writing, including all those months of research, then you really shouldn't be doing it.

As a child I loved reading myths, fairy stories and legends. My mother had a book of Norse myths which was my favourite. It was a grown-up book, but I just read it and read it. f also loved the Athurian legends.

I didn't like stories about children because I wanted to stop being a child. more primitive than causation, but that were boring. When I got a bit older I

really doesn't matter. Telling a good read most of Dickens and Walter Scott. I also adored Pilgrim's Progress. which I read over and over again. I like it because it has narrative drive and it is set in a mythical world.

with Mrs Machel.

My own children loved being read to aloud. Beatrix Potter really captured their imagination because her sentences are so beautiful. I read the whole of the Lord of the Rings aloud to my two older children. The thing with Tolkein is that you get completely submerged into another world. I also read poetry to them. Walter De La Mare's Come Hither was a wonderful collection of poetry for children which is now out of print.

I think that children like long, complicated jingly language that they can savour. Not too many difficult words, just enough to enjoy.

If I had to choose something to take with me to a desert island, it would probably be a book of Browning's poetry because you can contemplate it for a long time and I might need something spiritual. If I know I'm going to be rescued I would probably take the complete Terry Pratchett because they are such fun.

be obtained on application to Schoks-de Ltd. By submitting an entry an entrant agrees to be bound by the terms of and to sign this agreement if called upon to do so. Any story chosen for publication in the archology that does not win one of the top three cash prices will receive a fee of £200. Any entry not submitted in the form specified will be deemed in-the form specified will be deemed inanthology or in the newspaper by the end of December 1998, these rights revert to you. Entry into this competition



COMPETITION RULES

Story of the Year 6 offers a £2,000 prize Story of the Year 6 offers a £2,000 prize for the winner, with £500 each for two runners up. The top 10 stories will be published in an amthology by Scholastic Children's Books. You are invited to subtail, stories of 1,500-2,500 words which must arrive on or before 28 February 1998 at: PO BOX 21302

LONDON - WCIA IPE. You may en-ter only once and entries must be made by the writer, not on his/her behalf. Enby the writer, not on his/her beheld. En-tries must be typewritten, double-spaced and on one side of the paper only. We will not accept stories with illustrations. Manuscripts will not be re-turned, so please keep a copy. All en-tries must be unpublished, but published writers must be unpublished, but published writers may enter with new material. Each entry must be submitted with both a cover page and title page. The cover page must feature the story title, and the entrant's name, address and tele-

phone number. The title page must fea-sure only the title of the story. The sto-ry should start on a new page, and the author's mane must not feature on any of these pages, so that all eneries can be judged anonymously. The winning sto-ry will be published in The Independent subsequent to the final judging of the competition which concludes on 22 May 1996. The non three stories and up to 1998. The top three stories and up to 10 others will be published in the au-umn, in the anthology Story of the Year 6 by Scholastic Children's Books.

he comparidon is not open to em-

ployees of, or relatives of employees of Scholastic Ltd or Newspaper Publishing plc or anyone connected with the competition. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. No responsibility can be accepted for entries which are delayed, damaged, mislaid or wrongly delivered. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Entry grants to Scholastic. encered into. Entry grants to Scholastic Lot the exclusive right to publish an en-trant's story in all formats throughout the world for the full legal term of copyright. A copy of the form of the contract may

valid. If your story is not published in the anthology or in the newspaper by the

# Time to give working women a helping hand, Mr Brown



**EDITOR: ROSIE BOYCOTT** DEPUTY EDITOR: CHRIS BLACKHURST ADDRESS: 1 CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARE LONDON EI4 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 3435

WITHOUT working women, many of them mothers, the world economy would collapse. An increasing slice of global household income depends oo women's efforts outside the home. In most Westcro countries, "family" means an incessant struggle to balance work, home and children, in which most of the burden - still, whatever the alleged changes in men's role and sensibilides - falls on women. It is time that this was recognised by the Government and acted upon.

We are supposed to be having a grand debate about the reform of the welfare state. Just this week the Social Market Foundation, a think tank tilting right, published a pamphlet, typical of the breed, under the portentous ofte "The Future of Welfare". It contained 10 essays. One was by Frank, one by David, another by Myron, another by Nicholas ... Not a single one was written by a woman. In it women. the motors of welfare provision in the real world, were invisible - except as demonic.

breeders of fatherless children. Not a single contribution recognised the centrality of child-care in the household economy and the aching difficulty many real women have in trying to combine their domestic and occupational obligations.

And that kind of male insouciance has

been par for the course. The Beveridgean welfare state and the fiscal system that grew up post-war were at best paternalist; at worst they ascribed to womeo a marginal position as breeders and nurturers ... an index of women's position in the system is how few benefits are claimable by women in their own right, and how long it took the tax authorities to recognise that women have an existence independent of the man in the house. Once, to be fair, the tax and benefits system tried to recognise the fact that a household with children had vastly greater outgoings than one without, of which Child Benefit is the paltry legacy. But for most women of working age with children, the financial odds are tipped

against them: their lifetime earnings are severely reduced by the fact of having had children. Our system penalises households with children - yet they are our engines of social reproduction. The place where the new geoeration is being shaped and socialised ends up poorer. Allegedly "family friendly" Tory governments have made that situation worse.

The nub of the problem is child-care. Why are lone parents who want to work so often unable even to respond to the incentives the system offers to get off bencfit (incentives which Chancellor Gordon Brown is striving to increase)? Why are British women at higher income levels relatively so reluctant to offer their talents and efforts to the paid economy? The answer is child-care. There will always be a mixed economy of child-care provision. The state could do much more to provide or facilitate the provision of pre-school places. All those glowing reports you read about Wisconsin, the American state that allegedly has solved all its welfare problems ... they neglect to meotion just how much child-care government ageocies provide and even, where it is not geographically accessible, provide mothers with the means of transport to get to it. The cutting edge of reform is rebal-

ancing the tax take in favour of households with children. This is the substance of the campaign we are launching today. Yes, in some perfect world devised by a theorydriven economist, the tax code would have no encrustations, no reliefs or allowances. But here in the real world, there are goldplated reliefs provided to Uncle Torn Cobbleigh and all - but oot to that special group on whom society (yes indeed there is such a thing) depends for its posterity, working mothers.

If all employers were flexibly beneficent, there might be no need for state action. They are not. We need a universal child-care allowance made available to one parent in every household with children below the age of 16. Whatever this or a future Chancellor might decide on the balance of laxation between the income bands, this "horizontal" redistribution between households with and without children is essential

Gordoo Brown inherited family-unfriendly policy from the Conservatives. It would be asking a lot for him to reverse it all in his first full budget in March, committed as he is to reworking state help to those in low-income employment. Welfareto-work is a priority, yes, but Mr Brown will realise that this needs to be seen in a wider context. Women - in all bouseholds, at all income levels - have reservoirs of skill and eoergy. Too much of it is presently consumed in struggling to find satisfactory ways of looking after their children while they work. The Chancellor could do few things with more positive social and economic effect (not to mention electoral appeal) than start planning for a new childcare tax allowance.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a davime telephone number. Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

## LETTERS

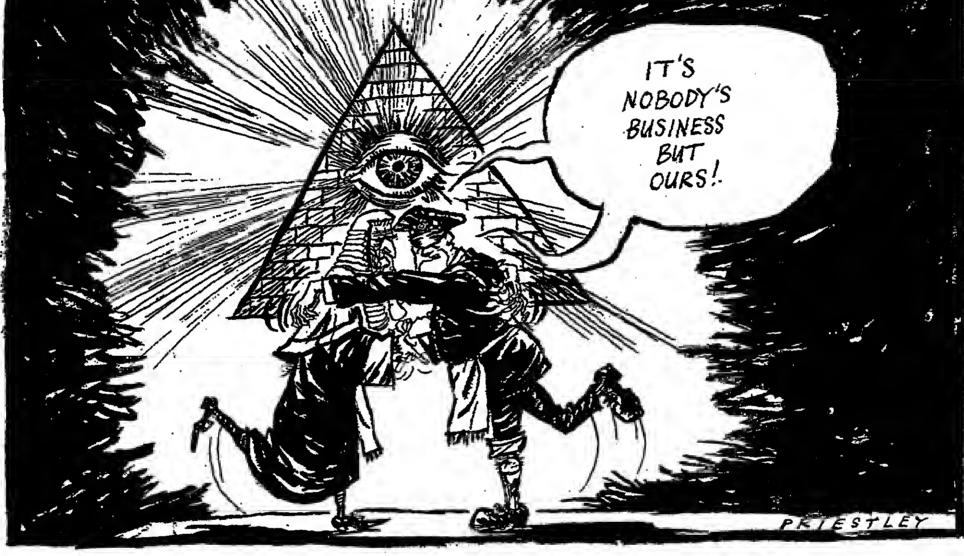


THE Nobel laureates rightly draw attention to the need for tougher control over the arms trade (letter, 17 February). The British and French proposal for an EU Code of Conduct states that the EU has "a special responsibility to promote restraint and trunsparency" over arms transfers, and that it seeks to "set high common standards". This is to be applauded. No European government has previously taken such a bold initiative. However, there are certain essential standards that the Code must meet if it is to achieve these objectives; and the current proposal falls short of all that is needed.

All too often, EU states export arms to dictatorial regimes, or to regions of instability. The UK continues to arm the authoritarian regime in Indonesia: Sweden is considering selling fighter jets to Chile, despite 28 Latin American heads of state calling for an arms moratorium to avert an arms race: Germany and France are seeking to sell uttack helicopters to Turkey, despite its appalling human rights record; and the Netherlands has recently licensed equipment to Algeria. In its current form, the Code could leave this unchanged.

The criteria must clearly state what the consequences of a breach of them will mean for arms exports. Tougher guidelines must be accompanied by clear multilateral consultation mechanisms. The Code should also make reference to the need for a rigorous system of parliamentury scrutiny. In a democratic Europe, parliaments, and the public, must be able to hold their governments to account for their decisions on this deadly trade.

We urge the member states to seize the opportunity to make a substantial contribution to international human rights, development and security by ensuring this initiative translates into an effective EU Code. MIKE AARONSON, Director-General, Save the Children; BARRY COATES, Director, World Development Movement: PAUL EAVIS, Director, Saferworld; JULIAN FILOCHOWSKI, Director, C4FOD, MARTIN HONEYWELL Associate Director, International Alert; IAN LINDEN, General Secretary, Catholic Institute for International Relations: DIANA MELROSE, Policy Director, Oxfam; DAN PLESCH, Director, BASIC; JANE WINDER, Director, One World Action London WCI



#### iraq and the UN

THE measures which the Unit-

ed Nations Security Council sanctioned to secure Iraa's withdrawal from Kuwait in 1991 were soundly based. But on that sound base, in the heat of the general condemnation of Iraq, the United States secured the adoption of many resoluoons which had very little to do with the original violation of international law. If the US had proposed public hanging of Saddam Hussein in front of the White House, the Security Council at that time would most probably have approved.

The threatened bombardment bence cannot be justified in this instance by reference to the formal resolutions of the Security Council. It should accord instead with the Charter of the UN. One of the basic requirements for mounting an attack on a sovereign state is that there should be an impending threat of use of force by that state. No one has produced any evidence that Iraq is going to attack any neighbouring state.

Mere possession of lethal weapons in itself does not make a case for attack: if that were so, several members of the United Nations, including most of the permanent members of the Security Council, would be suitable targets. Dr KABIR-UR-RAHMAN

KHAN Edinburg The writer is former Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public International Law,

University of Edinburgh

I AM dismayed that there has been so little concern for the possible effects of an American air strike against Iraq on the

giobal environment. In the devastation caused by burning oil wells during the .Gulf War, not only was a beautiful and unique wilderness area destroyed, but coral reefs and fisheries were damaged, and hird migration was impeded on a vast scale. Much damage is said to be irretrievable. **FJPRITCHARD** 

Malvern, Worcestershire

WHAT seems to have been least taken into account is the possibility of an American-British military assault on Iraq igniting a chain reaction that leads to international nuclear

Whatever the dangers posed by the Baghdad regime, the headlong military rush by Washington and London threatens to replace a very dangerous situation with a fatal one: out of the frying pan into the nuclear fire. If one lesson stands out from the history of war, it is that wars are far easier to start than to finish. DAVID SAWYER London N16

#### Hunger in Sri Lanka

IT IS particularly depressing that large numbers of people in Sri Lanka should be suffering from severe malnutridon ("Forgooen victims of war in Sri Lanka", 10 February) as that country was one of the first developing countries to bring its Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) down to a level indicating that chronic, persistent hunger was no longer an issue. Continuing enlightened policies kept the IMR down to 17 per thousand even in 1996, after many years

of civil war. Even more depressing is the damage being done to the long-term prospects of those children who survive. Malnutrition stunts growth and reduces IQ; lack of specific micronutrients such as iodine reduce it further (wheo their contribution to the cocktail of debilitation and disease is not fatal). These losses cannot be made up later - there is no second chance. Lack of zinc and vitamin A also reduce the resistance of children to the rampant malaria which your report

The Sri Lankan government has provided an example 10 other countries with its distinguished record of providing for the basic needs of all of its people, in difficult circumstances. Let it not falter

BILLLINTON

mentions.

#### RSC community care

DAVID LISTER puts the Royal Shakespeare Company's defence of its Newcastle season very well ("Bond of the Bard broken as theatrical friends fall out", 14 February). What he does not mendon is the success and vitality of the RSC's community and education work in the north-east, which is left described by Michael Bogdanov

as a "failure". For the record, over the past 2t years, community and education work by the RSC has affected a whole generation. Each year in Newcastle, our education department works with more than 5,000 students, in up to four workshops a day, and holds regular in-service training sessions with teachers.

In addition, there has recently been an extensive programme of community events, including pre-show discussions and presentations, work in prisons and remand centres and special projects with disadvantaged groups, including the Northwood, Middlesex

deaf community and adult un-

employed population. ADRIAN NOBLE Artistic Director Royal Shakespeare Company Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire

#### Powell's resting place

"LYING in state" is hardly a correct description of the practice whereby the body of any member of the Westminster Abbey family, of which the late Enoch Powell, being a regular attendant at both St Margaret's Church and the Abbey, was a much-respected member, is allowed to rest in the Abbey overnight before the funeral

(report, 16 February). Perhaps those clergy who are so incensed at the decision taken by the Abbey authorities to allow this should be asked if they would disallow such a tribute to a regular member of their own church's congregation simply because of his or her political beliefs. JAMES BOWEN

#### Smokers who sue

SMOKING causes lung cancer - there's no question about that. And it causes other cancers and heart disease and diseases of the blood vessels too. But theo alcohol causes cirrhosis and sunbathing causes skin cancer and we don't find people taking brewers and travel agents to court ("The story tobacco firms don't want to hear", 13 February).

As a doctor, I'd be delighted to see tobacco banned aitogether. The reduction in human misery and NHS expenditure would be immense. But the risks of smoking and its addictive nature have been well known for 35 years, and still people have chosen to smoke. Tobacco companies are oot responsible for people smoking, any more than bakeries are responsible for obesity or car manufacturers for dangerous driving.

Of course I am sorry for people with smoking-related diseases - pry colleagues and I spend much of our time and uch of the country's money trying to help them. But let them accept some responsibility for their own lives, and not try to shift the blame onto those who supplied what they wanted.

**HUGH J THOMSON** Birmingham

I LIVE in a world where I have: to stand in the cold to smoke, 7 am faced with oo smoking signs everywhere, no smoking areas in restaurants and pubs, and a culture that treats smokers as second class citizens. On the shelves are all sorts of products to persuade me to give up and despite all this I still carry on smoking. I do it because I like smoking, and when I decide that I do not like smoking, then I will give up.

It is about time we stopped watering down very good law that has stood us in good stead for centuries to make way for laws that blame everyone and everything but the person wh made the choice. JOSEPHINE HUSSEY London N8

#### Masons in the dock

IT IS to be hoped that, along with judges and other legal personages. Members of Parliament and above all cabinet ministers will be required to state their membership, if any, of the Freemasons. It would also be helpful, in criminal cases, if the accused were similarly required. PAMELA DONOHUE Sheffield

# Dear Mad Butcher ... Perhaps not. Dear Mr Hussein, here is a remarkable offer



KINGTON

EVERYONE hopes that Kofi Annan will fly to Baghdad with a note from the UN to sort out Saddam Hussein. However, Kofi is out exactly beating a path to his door. And this is for a good reasoo. The good reason is that it takes a lot of time to work out the best wording of a note from the UN to Saddam Hussein.

I mean, for a start, how do you address him? As "Dear Mr Hussein"? Or "Dear Saddam"? Or "Dear Mad Butcher of Baghdad"?

And even if you work out the best opening, what kind of letter do you theo write to him?

Just how tricky the whole thing is is shown by the many drafts through which that note has already gone. Some of these drafts are available on the Internet. and for those of you unfortunate enough to be without a weblog\*. I bring you today some of the first versions of that note to Saddam Hussein.

1. Dear Saddam, This is just to introduce myself. My name is Kofi Annan, and I am the new Secretary General of the United Nations. I notice from our books that we baven't seeo you at one of our meetings for a long time, and your subscription is now well overdue. I wondered if I might stop by and talk about this and other problems? yours sincerely ...

2. Dear Mr Hussein, As the breadwinner in your family, do you ever worry about what might happen if you were struck down by a heart attack? Or even worse, by a bomb that fell suddenly out of the sky and destroyed you along with your presidential palace? Well, we at United Nations Retirement Funds can help you with this sort of problem - and before

it happens! ... All you have to do is ... 3. Dear Saddam, I represent an organisation called the United Nations, which is currently in your area at the moment. We specialise in weapons inspec-

tions, location of biological war tools, location of landmines, etc., and we would be prepared to do an ABSOLUTELY FREE inspection of your country to check on warfare potentiality. All we would need is unlimited access for a period. You would receive a free copy of our report and we would keep one ourselves. A representative will be calling sooo to discuss this FREE offer ...

4. Dear Saddam Hussein, Hello! I am the new visiting pastor of the local United Nations Church, and I would like to make myself known on a one-to-one basis so that we can discuss the personal problems with neighbours that crop up at any time ...

5. Dear Mr Hussein, This letter is part of a chain that has been in existence now for THIRTEEN YEARS, and if you break that chain you will bring CATASTRO-PHES AND DISASTERS upon yourself. This is serious. All you have to do to avert

these DISASTERS AND CATASTRO-PHES is to write at the bottom of the letter "I renounce all use of chemical and biological weapons" and send it on to the next name in the chain, who is Kofi Annan, c/o United Nations, New York ...

6. Dear Mr Hussein, I am delighted to be able to tell you that you may already have won \$10,000,000,000 in a Lifting of Embargo Superdraw! Yes, you could be the lucky winner in this Lifting of Embargo Superdraw, which could win you \$10,000,000,000 in lifted embargoes! And all you have to do is send the enclosed envelope back! Yes, that's all you have to do! Oh, and also sign the enclosed form, saying that you don't mind anyone coming in and inspecting your weapons sites! That's it! That's ALL you have to do to be a winner, Mr Hussein! But don't forget - this has to be done by the end of the month! Otherwise we will kill you. Good luck, Mr

7. Dear Mr Hussein, We are delighted to tell you that you have been selected by the United Nations Visa Card Unit for a MasterLoan offer of up to ten billion dollars! Just think of all the things you could do with len billion dollars! New roads

... new schools ... new books for the new schools ... new packets of spagnetti for the new schools for little Iraqi children to make kindergarten pasta pictures with, to take home to their mummy and daddy, so that their muramy and daddy say, "Heyl This is good! Thanks to Saddam Hussein's insane foreign policy we are being starved, but now we can save our lives by cooking

and eating our children's kindergarten art!" Interested? We thought you would be! So send for details of the United Nations Visacard Maslerloan Aid Plan NOW.

\*Weblog. This is a new Internet word I have made up, which I hope will catch on. If it does, I will work out a meaning for it later.

# Dear Alan and Will, Sorry. You'll have to try harder



IFS WITO SHE I

HAMISH MCRAE THE CASE FOR JUNK MAIL

On Monday, my spouse received a letter from a couple of friends, Alan and Will, urging her to give up her subscription to this newspaper and take The Guardian and The Observer instead.

I suppose it was understandable that our friends should take that view since Alan happens to be editor of the former and Will of the latter. But the tone of their letter was odd. It addressed Frances as Mrs McRae instead of using her Christian name. It failed to note that I happened to write a column in both the daily and the Sunday Independents. It ignored the fact that she, as Frances Cairneross, had written for The Guardian for 10 years and for The Observer before that. Or that I had been financial editor of The Guardian for 14 years before coming here. It even managed to misspell the surname of the editor of The Guardian below the (correctly spelt but fuzzy) imprint of his signature.

Odd? Well, not really because of course the letter had not been sent by Alan or Will at all. It had been sent by a computer.

It was just one example of the extraordinary deluge of junk mail which now arrives through the letter hox every day -I guess like most people half of the stuff we receive is not sent by someone we know but simply because we are on some mailing list. At some stage in the past we must have done something which indicated that we read The Independent and the list was bought by the Guardian group. The development of cheap computing power has enabled databases to be built which tell producers of goods and services a lot about us. Our banks of course know an enormous amount about our spending patterns, our phone companies know about our communications patterns, our supermarkets (if you have a loyalty card) know our weekly purchases, and so on.

This aggregation of data is common throughout the developed world but in Britain there is a further twist. Our postcode system, which enables an address to be identified to within a few houses, has had the side-effect of enabling British homes to be classified in a more precise and detailed way than any others in the world.

But at the moment, despite the plethora of loyalty cards, specialised lists, and post-code classification, it is all very crude. The typical response rate on a standard mailing is 0.75 per cent; anything over 1 per cent is considered to be excellent. So more than 99 per cent of the runk mail is just that. Add in the irritation factor and the waste is enormous. We suffer the invasion of our privacy - being on crude mailing lists where our details may well be wrong -- without any of the advantages of better and more targeted services.

This is now starting to change very fast for the whole system is becoming much more intelligent. At last communications are reaching a stage where producers of goods

and services can know enough about their customers to be able to help them. Used ethically, the potential benefits to humankind are magnificent.

Three examples, one from the present and two from the near future. The present one concerns the way books are distributed on the Internet. Go onto the net and search for a book. You will find not only how to buy it through Amazon.com or the various other on-line ordering systems. You also get details, reviews, comments, maybe a link to the author's home page if he or she has one, the ability to add in your own com-ments, suggestions of other books of a similar vein, and so on. I found my own book on the future cross-referenced to Frances's new one on the future of telecommunications. In short, the net is already making precisely the connections which the junkmailing computers fail to do.

Now throw this forward a few years. Your car signals to the dealer (though the mobile phone) when it needs a service, telling the dealer what has been happening to its fuel consumption or whatever other information the dealer needs. It also tells the dealer how many miles the car is being used in town, what routes are being used and so on. The dealer can contact you and explain that if you switched to a new model, there would be a saving of x pounds a year on fuel. And, if you change route to and from your workplace that would save y pounds. In short, the service provider would be using the information intelligently not just to sell something, hut to enable the customer to have either a higher standard of living or a better quality of life for the same input of money.

Now take this a stage further. Suppose all the information about your income, spending, borrowing and saving could be classified centrally and analysed, perhaps by your bank. It would be possible to see whether you were spending too much for safety, borrowing at an unnecessarily high rate of interest, putting too much or too little into a pension, or paying an unnecessarily high rate of tax. The hank could then comh its customers' accounts, and genuinely help them manage things better. It might suggest small adjostments in the way the customers managed their finances that would enable them to have a generally higher standard of living; the bank might on the other hand be able to improve its own services, tailoring them more precisely to what their customer needed. At the moment these services are available to the very rich, who can afford the personal attention of highly paid people. What the information revolution does is to democratise this process, making available to ordinary people the quality of service previously only available to the very rich.

Of course there are dangers. Obviously there is the privacy issue. There are also dangers of social and economic exclusion. We are in danger of creating a system that works for all but the minority who do not have sufficient purchasing power to be worth trying to woo. For the most of us, however, anything that enables producers to connect more closely to the desires and needs of customers must improve the efficiency of the economic system. That is what better information about people can do. The developed world is going to have to rely increasingly on improved quality of information about the way people live their lives to drive living standards higher. We have already extracted most of the cost advantages that can be gained from increased efficiency in manufacturing, the next stage has to be increased efficiency in services and in distribution. Junk mail won't do that; intelligent analysis of what people really want will.

# Amnesty's latest fear: how our genes may determine our fate



**ANDREW BROWN** THE SCIENCE OF **HUMAN RIGHTS** 

semble humanity into a kind of molecular Meccano, what sense does it make to talk about human rights? This question is not new. Its classic expression was in Brave New World (written by the hrother of a leading hiologist of his day), and the most succinct statement of the problem was made by Stewart Brand in the Whole Earth Catalogue 30 years ago, when he said, "We are as Gods, and might as well get good at it."
The godlike status of biol-

ogists in the public imagination is shown by a harrowing story that Ian Wilmut, the scientist who cloned Dolly, tells. Following the publicity his experiment generated, he received a phone call from a woman whose two-year-old daughter had died of leukemia four days before. She wanted a copy of her daughter. As a man with three children himself, he said. "I have a suspicion that if we could do it, we would: we'd wave the magic wand and have the child back." But even if human cloning hecame safe and possible, he said, it will never helped to bring down one of give scientists that sort of magic wand. What cloning a dead child would do would be instead to make a new, different individual, who may well grow in a slightly different way. And this, he thought, would he not be fair to the new person, who would grow up constantly measured against an impossible template. "It would probably be an unreasonable pressure to copy a child under those

He made these remarks at Oxford, during his contribution to a series of lectures on hiology and human rights. Jonathan Glover, whose turn it is to lecture tonight, agrees that the link between genetics and human rights is subtle. "Much sible to discriminate among of the development of ethics since Brave New World was published has been to ask why we are affronted by that future, and how to defend our revulsion from it." Biological determinism, the doctrine that we are shaped by our genes, is obvious nonsense, he says. The deeper problem is whether we are entirely conditioned by the interplay of our genes and our environment, and so could be monlded to taste if both were controlled. "Aldous Huxley was a genius and saw this. Since then we have come further than the very crude forms of utilitarianism that ruled in Nyhan syndrome, invariahly

circumstances."

If modern biology can disas- Brave New World, in which people were simply after pleasure. We have realised that people value variety, selfdetermination, and the chance to shape their own lives, too."

> The pursuit of autonomy for its own sake may lead away from Brave New World. It will not take us to utopia. The biggest theme that has emerged in the course of these Amnesty lectures is that any threat to human rights posed by hiological technology comes from an entirely new direction. Not all the speakers would agree with Wilmut that an injustice would be committed against a child if it had been produced as a cione of a dead sibling. But all would agree that it is not the state which threatens to use these techniques dangerously, but rather individuals acting within the free market. The classic example of state abuse of reproductive technology has been the campaigns of abortion and forced sterilisation carried out in China and parts of India. In democratic India, revulsion against the campaign Indira Gandhi's governments, and compulsory sterilisation has long since ended there. But in its place has come the widespread selective abortion of female foctuses, simply because

fatal, which among other things

causes the sufferer to lose the

distinction between his body

and the outside world, so that

he gnaws continuously at his

own lips and fingers and will,

if not prevented, eat them. It is difficult to suppose that even the most ardent prolifers, confronted with the reality of such a child's fate, would not suppose it were bet-

race or the nation as the unit which Darwinism shapes."

It is true that parents picking and choosing among their potential children on the hasis of their individual genes is clearly different from picking and choosing among whole population groups. But there is one case where the Nazi ideology and the free market practice might intersect; sexual

es of homosexual disposition will be detectable in the womb. What should society expect of parents then? Should it prohibit the tests that make such decisions possible? Should it demand that parents bring up a child whose sexual orientation they find repulsive or whom they believe will be condemned to a life of unhappiness and isolation because of his condition? Such a belief could easily become a self-fulfiling prophecy in a society where abortion on grounds of sexual preference became established: the smaller a minority gays formed, the more miserable their lives might become.

These are not questions to which any obvious or easy answer presents itself. They throw upside down the normal order of things in which Amnesty members find themselves protecting, or trying to protect, in-tividuals from wicked governments. The questions raised by reproductive ethics demand that governments curb the actions of wicked individuals. They may even demand that government curh the actions of good people acting inside wicked systems. After 40 years of struggling against totalitarianisms, human rights might have to take on the marthat within 50 years some cas- ket next.



#### Questions raised by reproductive ethics may demand that governments curb the actions of good people acting inside wicked systems

they would, if born, be girls. That kind of abortion is about as crude as reproductive technology can get. Further developments may make it posembryos on the hasis of much are uncontroversial, except to the sort of absolutists who believe that all embryonic life must at all costs be preserved. Jonathan Glover, a philosopher who is director of the Centre of Medical Law and Ethics at King's College London, will argue in his lecture tonight that there are some rare diseases so horrible that an early abortion would be acting in the interests of the potential child, saving it from a short lifetime filled with pain. There is, for exam-

ple, a condition called Lesch-

ter for it not to have been born. But such clear-cut cases are few. More common conditions such as Down's syndrome are much harder to judge. If society regards the presence of such a disaborting a foetus, this makes it harder to preserve equality of respect for those already born. One might argue that their human worth, if not their human rights, has been diminished.

Nonetheless, the abortion of Down's syndrome foctuses is very different from Social Darwinism, or from Nazi eugenics, to which it is sometimes compared. "I get increasingly irritated by the facile use of the Nazi case in these dehates. The modern idea of the gene as the unit of survival is very different from their belief in the

preference. If some parents will abort a foetus just for being a female, it seems clear that some, given the opportunity, would do the same if tests suggested their child would othease as an acceptable reason for erwise be gay. Now, such tests traordinarily unlikely that the whole spectrum of behaviours and affections clumped together as "gay" are all determined by the same factors, or that that all or even most of these determining factors operate in the womh. But it is at least possible that some do, and

# Gays, lesbians, straights - it's time to treat us all the same



. . .

MARKS ON A LEGAL НОТСНРОТСН

The European Court was quite explicit in its ruling yesterday on a lesbian railway clerk who wants a concessionary travel pass for her girlfriend. European law does not protect homosexuals from discrimination at work, it said, and it is up to legislators in member states to keep pace with changing sex-

ual mores. Gay men and women had pinned their hopes on victory for Lisa Grant, which would have given them equal rights to pensions and other employment-related benefits. Now they must look to Westminster to reform the domestic statutes that treat them as second-class citizens in the workplace.

But it is not only civil law that fails to reflect the extent to which social attitudes towards homosexuality have evolved over the past three decades. The criminal law is also behind the times. This coming Friday, seven men could be sent to prison for up to five years by a judge in Bolton, Greater Manchester, for participating in group sex in a private home. The case, which was prose-

cuted with a righteous zeal reminiscent of the 1950s, is a stark reminder of the existence of criminal legislation that singles gay men out for punitive treatment. All the Bolton defendants were over the age of consent, except one who was six months short of 18, and all were fully consenting. The statute that they fell foul of was the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, which decriminalised homosexual acts in private hut restricted privacy to circumstances in which only two people are present. They were convicted on the basis of home videos seized by police.

It must have come as a cruel irony to these men to learn about a sado-masochistic sex party raided by police in a club in Bolton a week after their trial. Officers only stayed long enough to ascertain that it was a private function, for straight guests only.

Thus events within in a short period in a small northern town have neatly encapsulated one of the glaring absurdities of the penal code, which gives its blessing to orgies involving people of the opposite sex - and, incidentally, lesbians - hut brings the full force of the law down on like-minded gay men.

But it is not only the curious definition of privacy which would have to be abolished for homosexuals to be treated as equals before the criminal law. Hundreds of gay men are still prosecuted every year for ar-

men - has long been legal. It does not relate to prostitution, but to men who "cruise" for partners in public places. If these two offences, both

moral purpose" - sex between

of which criminalise consenting sex hetween adults, were scrapped, the precarious legal position of gay men would be transformed. (The 1533 buggery law could be repealed, too, since anal intercourse is now le-

The penal code gives its blessing to orgies involving people of the opposite sex, but cracks down on homosexuals

chaic offences for which there is no heterosexual equivalent. Several of the Bolton men, for instance, were convicted of

gross indecency, the crime that landed Oscar Wilde in Reading Gaol, Gross indecency, first outlawed in 1885, became the classic offence used to charge men who engage in "cottaging". The Mayor of Burnley was among those charged with gross indecency last year after police lay in wait for him in a public toilet. Then there is the quaintly-phrased crime of "soliciting for an immoral purpose", which dates back to the Vagrancy Act of 1898 and remains on the gal for everyone and rape legislation has been extended to cover assaults on men.)

These reforms would not give men a licence to engage in flagrant displays of sexual behaviour in public. As pointed out by Martin Bowley QC, chairman of a working party that has produced a consultation paper on changes to this area of law, offensive conduct could be adequately dealt with under an amended Public Order Act. Under the new Act. such behaviour would be treated as a public nuisance rather than a sexual crime, and a member of the public would statute books although the "im- have to see and be offended by discharge. Contrast that with

it for a prosecution to be hrought. Currently, only a police officer needs to witness it. The problem of tinkering night.

with existing legislation, though, is that it would prolong the piecemeal approach of the past 100 years which has resulted in a legal hotchpotch of anomalies and contradictions. It would be far better to introduce a new sexual offences law that, instead of distilling the values of the Victorian Age and 1950s Middle England, mirrors the attitudes of a modern society. This new law should be based on the principle of equality of sexuality which (given that the age of consent is almost certain to be equalised at 16 later this year) is hardly a controversial approach.

last year, for instance, it was re-

garded as rather amusing and

they received a conditional

bers of society. But for this to happen, there would need to be a comprehensive review of the legislation, a task that has not been undertaken since 1957, when the Wolfenden committee published the report that led to the 1967 Act. When wise men and women finally do put their heads together, they should consider not just inequities in the law, but discriminatory enforcement and sentencing. When a couple had sex in hroad daylight on the bonnet of a car at Heathrow Airport

the substantial fines that are regularly meted out to men arrested in the middle of the Sexual law reform is never

it would be an honourable gov-

le it. And during the last age of consent debate in 1994, Tony Blair spoke passionately in favour of equality of sexuality. A new statute should have three aims: to protect minors, to uphold public decency and to provide sanctions for rape and sexual assault. Our legislators should be quite clear in their minds that the law's prop-

The philosophy that the law has no place in the bedrooms of consenting adults was, in fact, accepted by the Wolfenden committee - wrecking amendments to the 1967 hill created the restrictive privacy clause. Had the report heen properly implemented, the Bolton case

but to protect vulnerable mem-

could never have been brought. The Crown Prosecution Service, in a letter justifying the decision to press charges against the seven men, pointed out that Parliament "still draws a distinction between heterosexual and homosexual acts". This distinction has never been appropriate or just; but in 1998, it is indefensible.



# DTI set to raise limit on overseas holdings in BAe and Rolls

By Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent** 

THE GOVERNMENT is poised to raise the limits on overseas shareholdings in British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce, a move likely to boost

shares in both companies. After longer than expected discussions, the Department of Trade and Industry is understood to have agreed to an increase in the foreign ownership ceiling from 29.5 per cent Richard Evans, BAe's chief executive, said 29'39 per cent of its shares were from a US predator. However, the and Sir Ralph Robins, Rolls-Royce's in foreign hands, just short of the Treasury had held up the agreement chairman, to Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade.

A British Aerospace spokesman said: "We are making good progress on the matter and look forward to had to sell it back into the market. an early response." John Battle, the Industry Minister, confirmed the companies' request in a written Commons answer last month. He said the DTI hoped to make an announcement "relatively soon".

current limit set at privatisation. The the last overseas investor to buy stock range of Airbus aircraft.

The request for a raised foreign shareholding of just below 50 per altogether, but Rolls-Royce was

during heated discussions over BAe's identical ceiling for Rolls-Royce has request for a government loan totwice been breached, which meant wards the development of a new

Earlier this month the DTI sanctioned £123m of launch aid for the negotiations. stretched version of the A340. BAe cent was a compromise. BAe had will build the enlarged wings for the preferred to see the limit disappear. plane, which challenges older versions of the Boeing 747, but had concerned that a ceiling of more than warned it could shift work on parts to 49.5 per cent. The decision by min-isters follows a joint approach by Sir wove increased in the City after BAe a clear takeover target, possibly enment failed to hack the project.

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, is thought to have intervened in the discussions, overruling reservations from Gordon Brown, the Chancellor. One source said the Treasury had temporarily "sat on" the foreign ownership issue during the launch aid

Analysts yesterday forecast that foreign investors would quickly move to increase their holdings in BAe and Rolls-Royce. The agreement could also open the way for partnerships with overseas investors. The new limits involve changing the articles of

association and need to be approved. at annual shareholders' meetings. Brian Newman, of the brokers Henderson Crosthwaite, said dealers

had been prevented from satisfying strong pent-up demand for shares from overseas institutions. mand will increase the proportion of

"We expect the release of this deshares in BAe and Rolls-Royce held by overseas investors to more than 40 per cent by the end of the year and boost the share-price performance of both companies." Shares m British Aerospace closed yester-

day at 1790p, up 15p, while Rolls-Royce shares fell 0.75p to 203.5p. Meanwhile, Smiths Industries, the aerospace company, has won orders worth \$50m (£30m) to supply Boeing with electronics for its 767 jettimer and to supply the US Navy with flight recorders for military aircraft.

The orders are the latest for 5 Smiths in the midst of a world-wide resurgence in the aerospace industry. Strong economies have prevented steeper declines in defence spending and airlines are using record profits to order more aircraft.

# FTSE 100 hits peak on record Budget surplus

By Diane Coyle Economics Editor

HOPES that Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, buoyant start on Wall Street, monitor the state of the Govstarting rate of income tax and reduce National Insurance con- 5,709.5, a new all-time high. tributions for the low-paid in next month's Budget received a big last month, thanks in part to the introduction of self-assessment, .

highest-ever monthly repayment of the national debt in January. The surplus of revenues over spending amounted to £10.4bn, compared with £5.7bn in the same month last year.

The Chancellor should easily beat his £9.5bn target for government borrowing in 1997/98. City experts predicted.

The unexpected tax bonanza in January led Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, to accuse Mr Brown of building up a "war chest" of each in time for the next general election.

these figures prove that the Chancellor has money available to invest in schools and hospitals if only he is willing to end his dogmatie adherence to Tory spending plans," he said.

with a rebound in Asian stock markets, merger mania and a will introduce his promised 10p helped the FTSE 100 index erament's finances now expect climb almost 90 points to reach

The surprise figures also boosted gilts, with the vield on boost yesterday from news of 10-year government stocks forecasts in the £6bn to £9bn record income tax payments declining to 5.89 per cent, the range. This would be the best lowest for 30 years.

Simon Briscoe at Nikko The Government made the Europe said: "In an era of low inflation and at this stage in the business cycle, the Government should be repaying debt."

David Bloom at HSBC James Capel said the Govern-

But the City welcomed the ment's new system of rules for news. The feelgood factor, along prudent finances was already proving its worth.

Almost all the analysts who

the figure for the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) this financial year to turn out lower than the target, with most result since 1991 - and still leave the Chancellor scope to finance some of his tax pledges.

The front-runners are a reduction in national insurance £3bn higher than in January contributions for low earners and 1997. the introduction of a 10p start-

#### Beckett admits pound is hurting

THE GOVERNMENT last night acknowledged the impact the strength of sterling was having on industry, but did not hold not a hint of Government intervention, saying business should concentrate on "trades that depend less on price and more no quality". Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, said she

understood why firms found it difficult to deal with the pound's sharp rise against continental currencies in a short period of time. "I know that the Bank of England is fully aware of the circumstances of manufacturers, and of the prob

are having to deal with," Mrs Beckett said. "The judgement they are now charged to make each mouth cannot be easy, but we must all remember that they have to take a view across the whole economy, not just a part, even as important a part as manufacturing."

January normally brings a big repayment of government debt because corporation tax receipts have, in the past, been clustered in that month and October. However, the surprise this time around came from high income

tax receipts. This was partly due to the introduction of self-assessment, which reduced revenues in December but boosted them in January by around £2bn. Total income tax revenues were £11.8bn, more than twice December's level and more than

Allowing for that, tax revenues were still more buoyant than expected in the latest month but just below the Treasury's target for the year to date. Total receipts have grown by just over 7 per cent in the first 10 months of the financial year, compared with the 8.1 per cent forecast.

The underlying reason for the improvement in the PSBR as a whole has been tough control of spending by Whitehall departments. This was lower than a year earlier, whereas the departmental spending plans the Chancellor adopted from his predecessor allowed for a 1.7 per cent increase for the year.



Record receipts: The introduction of self-assessment boosted income-tax revenues in January

## Drugs giant set to reveal merger details next month

SMITHKLINE Beecham vesterday signafied that its blockbuster £100bn-plus merger with create the higgest drugs company in the world, was on track. The two groups will unveil their merger plans early next month.

giants were announced last month, Jan Leschly, Smith-Kline's chief executive, said yesterday: "The proposed merger ... represents a comfor both companies to enlarge their industrial position and enhance shareholder value."

He insisted that the merger was a way of maximising the effectiveness of research and development spending, a key issue facing pharmaceutical companies in an increasingly

Mr Leschly also indicated that the combined group was likely to keep its clinical services arm, despite speculation that it could have been a casualty of the

strongly in 1997. SmithKline dismissed criticism of its acquisition of DPS, its troubled pharmacy benefit manager. And Mr Leschly insisted it made a use-Glaxo Wellcome, designed will ful contribution to the group and would continue to do so for years to come.

Analysts said yesterday that SmithKline was likely to sell its In his first comments since nutritional division, which talks between the two drugs makes Ribena and Lucozade, as Jan Leschly: Broke silence a result of the merger. However, SmithKline refused to be drawn on further details.

Mr Leschly's comments came as SmithKline unveiled a pelling strategic opportunity 7 per cent rise in 1997 pre-tax profits to £1.65bn at what is likely to be its last annual results presentation as an independent group. Ignoring the strength of the pound, which wiped £157m off earnings, profits rose 17 per

This strong trading performance was driven by a jump in profits from its pharmaceuticals division. Sales of Seronat, its anti-depressant which is an alternative to Prozac and trades as Seroxil in the US, rose 36 per cent. Augmentin, an antibiotic, merger. The division recovered and its vaccines portfolio also to 1961p.



on Glaxo deal yesterday

showed good sales growth. Meanwhile, a 17 per cent rise in profits at its consumer health-

care division was driven by a sharp rise in sales of Aquafresh toothbrushes and tooth pastes. Nicorette patches and chewing gum, designed to help smokers kick the bahit, have also shown rapid expansion with annual sales reaching £273m. A string of new drugs contributed to the profits rise and SmithKline increased its research and development expenditure by 17 per

cent to £841m. SmithKline's shares rose 2p to 837p. Glaxo's shares rose 22p

# Barclays shares slide as merger plans stay vague

By Chris Godsmark

Shares in Barclays, the banking group, sank 6 per cent yesterday as the City expressed its disappointment at a lacklustre set of full-year results and the absence of positive news on merger plans.

News of a £500m share huyback programme failed to cheer analysts, many of whom had been hoping for a hullish statement on future strategy.

But although Martin Taylor, Bardays' chief executive, said the case for further rationalisation was "compelling", he refused to comment specifically on the identity of possible merger partners.

One banking analyst said: Consolidation rumours have driven this share price up, and if he [Mr Taylor] doesn't say anything positive on consolidation soon, people are going to get a bit worried."

Persistent takeover rumours in particular, speculation about a possible link-up with Nat West - have sent Bardays' share price soaring in recent months. Since the autumn. shares have risen by more than a third. But yesterday they shed 118p to close at 1813p.

Barclays' pre-tax profit for the year to December slumped

than expected - prompting unfavourable comparisons with rival Lloyds TSB, which last week unveiled record 1997

profits of £3.2bn. The sell-off of parts of BZW. Barclays' former investment banking arm, was the main reason for the profit fall. Two weeks ago, the bank admitted that it would take a £688m hit following the sale of its equity and cor-

porate advisory businesses. The City had already been told about the BZW figures, but was surprised yesterday by the size of some other costs.

The bank has set aside an additional £25m to cover compensation for non-priority cases in the pensions mis-selling scandal. It also said yesterday preparations for EMU and the year 2000 would cost a total of £400m.

If the UK enters EMU on a retail hasis, where the currency will be used on the high street, Barclays will incur a further £300m in costs as cash machines and other types of technology are changed.

Barclays took the opportunity yesterday to spell out its degree of exposure to Asia. The bank has an exposure of £1.2bn to Korea, Indonesia and Thai-

26 per cent to £1.7bn - lower land, 15 per cent of which is in the corporate sector. Barclays has made an additional provisions of £45m to cover the in-

creased risk of default in Asia. When questioned about the possibility of mergers in the banking industry, Mr Taylor reiterated his view on rationalisation in the sector.

He said: "I think the arguments for banking consolidation in the next decade are absolutely compelling. There is no doubt at all that we'll see a substantial reduction in the number of international hanks." Although he expected there would be cross-border mergers. you do tend to get domestic consolidation first, for all sorts

But Mr Taylor would not be drawn into a discussion of likely merger partners for Barclays. although he admitted "cultural incompatibility" could destroy shareholder value.

of reasons".

Mr Taylor also provided details of Barclays' new structure, which will come into effect on April 1. The bank is to be reorganised into four groups: Retail Financial Services, Corporate Banking, Barclays Global Investors, and Barclays Capital, the remnants of BZW.

## Indonesia sacks bank chief in currency row

THE ASIAN crisis showed no signs of abating yesterday as Indonesia fired the governor of its central bank, and indicated it was moving ahead to peg the rupiah to another currency even as mounting objections made it likely the plan would lack the

credibility it needed to succeed.

President Suharto gave no reason for dismissing Bank Indonesia governor Soedradjad Djiwandono. He replaced him with Sjahril Sabirin, a central bank director seen to lean favourably towards a so-called currency board. Mr Soedradiad was let go because "he opposed the currency peg, and it's a sign that Suharto is very much ready to implement the peg."

said one currency strategist. However, Steve Hanke, the Johns Hopkins University economist advising Indonesia on the currency board, shrugged off interoational objections, saying they were misplaced. "It's quite a mystery what's going on, he said. Mr Hanke dismissed op-

position from the International Monetary Fund, the US and the European Union, saying the peg would stabilise the rupian and help Indonesia meet the reform requirements under the

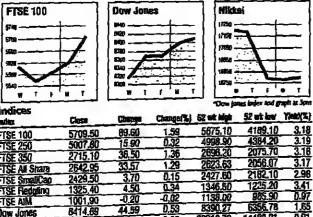
IMF's \$40bn (£24.4bn) bailout. His comments pulled up the rupiah, which recovered to 9,450 to the dollar after falling 0.5 per cent earlier in the day.

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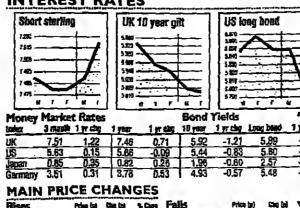
Meanwhile, the UK government has launched an mitiative to increase the amount of European technical assistance available to the troubled Asian economies. The initiative, which will focus on financial sector restructuring, is being developed in the run up to the ASEM 2 Summit on 3-4 April. when Asian and European leaders meet in London.

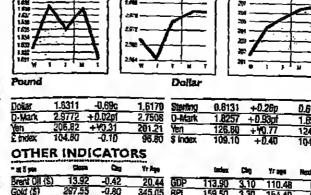
The Treasury said Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, and Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, discussed their ideas with Jim Wolfensohn, World Bank President, when they met yesterday.

#### STOCK MARKETS FISE 100



### INTEREST RATES

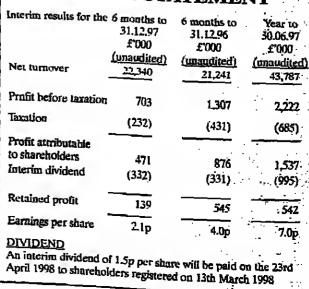




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# **HAGGAS**

JOHN HAGGAS PLC INTERIM STATEMENT





OUTLOOK ON CONSOLIDATION IN HIGH STREET BANKS AND THE GOOD NEWS ON **GOVERNMENT** FINANCES

# We need more competition in banking, not less

Good news, If Martin Taylor, chief exec- of tax and benefits. It also requires job utive of Barclays, gets his way, National Insurance will be reformed in such a way in the Budget as to help create lots of low paid, unskilled jobs and provide the incentive to unemployed people to fill them.

Bad news. If Martin Taylor gets his way, Barclays will soon be allowed to merge with National Westminster Bank, destroying 20,000 jobs in the process, many of them low paid and unskilled. Margaret Beckett doesn't much like the idea, and nor does Gordon Brown, if the truth be known, but Mr Taylor is reported to be working on them.

Is there not just the faintest hint of a difference between what Mr Taylor preaches and what he practices? Next month, Mr Taylor will be producing a review for the Government on reform of the tax and benefit system - again, all designed to get people off benefit and into work. Indeed, this is to be the central theme of the Budget itself. And it is Mr Taylor who has been advising Gordon Brown on it alt. Meanwhile, back in the day joh, Mr Taylor is shedding labour as fast as he can sign the redundancy cheques.

How does he manage in sleep at night." In be fair nn Mr Taylor, there's nothing wrong or unreasonable with aspiring both to public-interest tax and benefit reform while at the same time pursuing the supposed competitive needs of his own business. The problem is that the two things pull in different directions.

Getting the long term unemployed back into work requires more than reform

creation and since the long term unemployed tend to be unskilled, that means primarily at the lower end of the pay scale. Unfortunately, this is also where the extreme competitive pressures placed on companies by the process of globalisation and technological advance are at their most brutal.

With his heart Mr Taylor wants to create more jobs for the benefit-dependent in fill. Reality is meanwhile destroying them at breakneck speed. So with his head, Mr Taylor is ensuring that he keeps his bank competitive by playing the fullest possible part in the process.

Growth in service sector activities like catering and leisure is to some extent easing the pain but the big demand in developed economies these days is for skilled, knowledge-based labour. Even Mr Taylor is being forced to recruit IT specialists as fast as he is shedding his clerks, as amply demonstrated by the big jump in underlying costs that Barclays recorded last year. As fast as Barelays cuts its labour and other overheads, it is forced to give it all back on extra IT spending. Outgoings on the millennium bug and preparations for the single currency come no top.

Though he was refusing to say anything about it yesterday, Mr Taylor wants to take the process of change much, much further. He wants in merge with NatWest to create a national champion capable of punching its weight in Europe and beyond. If we don't dn this, his emissaries claim, we'll get left behind. Europe after the advent of the single currency will become the

plaything of a small number of dominant national players, they argue.

Think of Britain now, with its relatively small number of retail banks, some of them with very high market shares. That's what the European market will look like 10. 20 years from now, the argument goes. Those countries that prevent this process of consolidation from happening will end up with their banking market overrun by those who do.

Are ministers going to buy this? Are they really prepared to allow big job cutting mergers even as they are trying to promote policies that create employment and force the benefit dependent back to work? Tony Blair scens to have become so beholden to the forces of big business that anything seems possible. Who knows, Mr Taylor may even be right. It may indeed be the case that a small number of dominant national players are more capable of competing abroad than a larger number of less dominant nnes.

creating a more prosperous, vibrant and competitive national economy? All the evidence is the other way. Think back 15 years in the overpriced, low quality service that was the British Telecom monopoly. Dismantling it has been a long and hard fought process but few dispute that the end result has been anything other than overwhelmingly positive. We now have Europe's most competitive telecommunications market. That's been good both for jobs in telecommunications and related services, and for the general competi-

But is such hegemony also capable of

tiveness of the British economy. Do we really want to go the other way in banking?

The stock market may have been disappointed by Barclays' profits yesterday but in fact retail banking profits are now reaching levels which everyone else can legitimately regard as excessive. The way for policymakers to address such excess is not through the crude mechanism of a windfall tax, but by protecting and nurturing a properly competitive environment. Britain has too few banks, not too many. Mr Taylor is a persuasive character but in the end good economics and sound judgement will win the day. Maybe.

## Big question for the Iron Chancellor

The news on the government's finances has been so good it is starting to seem too good to be true. Happy is the Chancellor whn meets his spending targets without apparent difficulty, can afford to pay for some cherished Budget giveaways like the 10p starting rate of income tax, and can still predict a big enough improvement in the borrowing requirement that the Liberal Democrats, Britain's last tax-andspend party, can accuse him of building up a war chest for the next election.

In fact the war chest is a red herring, diverting attention from the fact that the Labour Government inherited a truly awful position from the Tories. The national debt had doubled under John Major's pre-

miership, and the government is still borrowing billions of pounds at a stage of the economic cycle when it should be in surplus. The time to talk about war chests is when the surplus is actually in the bag.

For the news probably is too good to be true, despite Gordon Brown's genuine and welcome commitment to prudent fiscal management. One worry is what will happen to tax revenues as the economy slows down. The other serious question mark hangs over the spending side of the equation. While there can be little doubt that the Chancellor bas an iron grip over expenditure by Whitehall, the Treasury's control over local authority spending is still far from secure. There are big pressures in both education and public sector pay, much of which falls under local authorities. There are indeed signs in the emergence of a gap between the spending recorded in the monthly PSBR figures and much higher expenditure recorded in the quarterly national accounts figures, that control of non-departmental spending has already weakened since 1 May.

There is no reason for alarmism. Within a few months Labour has proved to be better than the Conservatives at running the public purse. But even this Iron Chancelfor can not eliminate the big question that lies behind all others when it comes in Government spending; how do we pay for the improvements in public services so many people want when voters are so resistant to higher taxes? The Chancellor is unlikely to have the answer when he gets up to deliver his Budget speech on 17 March.

# Grade in line for £1 m a year as chairman at First Leisure

By Andrew Yates

MICHAEL GRADE, the outspoken former head of Channel 4, could receive more than £1.1m a year in his new role as chairman of First Leisure, it was revealed yesterday. Mr Grade, who joined the group last June, is to receive a basic salary of £510,000 a year. On top of that he could carn up to £625,000 under a special tailor-made long-term incentive plan.

Micbael Payne, the group's managing director, also controversially received a £79,000 bonus for agreeing a new threeyear contract, which directly flouts corporate governance guidelines. Mr Payne was previously on a 12-month contract, in line with recommended prootice. Mr Payne also received a 20 per cent pay rise, collecting a total of £315,000 in 1997 compared with £188,000 the previous year.

First Leisure's annual report also revealed that John Conlan. the group's former chief executive who left in the wake of Mr

Grade's arrival, received a total pay-off of £1.5m, Nick Tamblyn, who used to head up the group's bingo and bealth and fitness division, received a total of £459,000 after also leaving the group abruptly last June.

The directors' bonanzas come against the background of dwindling profits and a slump in the share price. Pre-tax profits for the year to October fell to £41.5m (£42.1m). Its shares have fallen by almost a fifth to 303.5p over the last 12 months, underperforming the market by more than 30 per cent.

Institutional shareholders expressed concern at the revelations. One said: "A salary of over £500,000 looks a lot for a company of First Leisure's size. Maybe he needs the money to keep him in cigars" - a reference to Mr Grade's trademark accessory. Another said: "This bonus for extending the contract looks unjustified."

Mr Grade bas also been issued with 651,757 share options which can be exercised at 313p a share. Mr Tamblyn retains op-

tions over more than 150,000 shares despite his pay-off.

First Leisure said yesterday that it wanted to give Mr Payne. who is 60-years old, a three-year contract to ensure he remained with the group. "This was an exceptional case. We wanted to prevent him from moving to a competitor or retiring," said a spokesman. First Leisure also claimed

that Mr Grade's total salary had not increased since he was working with Channel 4. He received £450,000 at Channel 4 as well as £60,000 a year in his former role as non-executive director of First Leisure.

The group refused to comment on what criteria Mr Grade would have to meet to receive his maximum annual bonus. However, a spokesman said it would be more demanding than conditions imposed on John Conlan.

Mr Payne and Grabam Coles, the group's finance director, both made £86,000 from the group's long-term incentive plan last year.



Incentives: Michael Grade could earn up to £625,000 a year through a tailored L-tip

# bans staff from its funds' boards

By Andrew Verity

FOREIGN & Colonial, the investment manager, yesterday silenced fierce criticism from the City by ordering all of its employees who are directors of client investment trusts to step down.

Seven employees, including James Ogilvy, the new chairman of Foreign & Colonial, will step down as non-executive directors of eight investment trusts run by the fund manager. No employee will be allowed to serve on an investment trust board while running its funds.

Andrew Barker, a senior fund manager, will step down from the Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust, the £2.5bn flagship of which Kenneth Clarke, the former chancellor, is a

In an unusual move, F&C also said it would let investment trusts cut F&C's contract as fund manager from two years to one, without any compensation.

Robert Jenkins, who joined the fund manager as chief executive last month, said: "The initiative we announced today goes above and beyond what is currently considered best

practice in the industry. "The essence of the issue is the perception of a conflict [of interest] and the perception of potential wrongdoing that arises from dual responsibilities. We

are doing absolutely everything that could possibly be done within the limits of Foreign & Colonial's management."

F&C, which manages £4.5bn in client investment trusts, has been under attack for months from shareholders such as Hermes. Shareholders questioned whether a director could be impartial in judging the performance of a fund manager while also being an employee.

The battle came to a head last month when Hermes, the pension fund, and City of London, a fellow shareholder, voted to oust the entire board of Brazit, the Brazilian Smaller Companies Investment Trust,

run by Foreign & Colonial. The board included F&C's former chairman, Michael Hart, who was replaced by Mr Ogilvy in January. Mr Hart now heads up the Association of In-

vestment Trust Companies. Shareholders of investment trusts were also concerned that fund managers often had twoyear contracts, allowing them to claim compensation if they were ditched for performing badly.

The City yesterday welcomed the move as a big step forward in efforts to clean up the investment trust industry and called on others to follow. Shares in investment trusts run by F&C were all marked up by around 2 per cent each.

# Foreign & Colonial Royal Bank rules out higher price for Midshires

ROYAL Bank of Scotland has ruled out the possibility of raising the offer price for Birmingham Midshires Building Society beyond a range of £605 m to £630 m, despite claims that it significantly undervalues the society.

Birmingham Midshires is facing renewed protests from policyholders angry that it is being sold at a "knock-down, bargain basement price" much lower than its likely market value. The society said the offer, made last August, valued the company at 12 times its earnings, while a spokesman for Royal Bank said the multiple was over 14.

But policyholders complain that the City now sees much greater value in societies which have converted to hanks.

Northern Rock trades at a multiple of 24 times earnings while Halifax is at 30 times earnings.

Save Our Building Societies, a St Alban's-based lobby group. is aiming to gather 100 signatures of Birmingham Midshires members, enough to force a special meeting to discuss the bid. So far, the group has gathered 60 signatures.

The group also questions a part of the deal under which Mike Jackson, chief executive of Birmingham Midshires, will be offered a senior executive role within Royal Bank, including a seat on the bank's board of directors. John Leighfield, chairman of Birmingham Midshires, will also be offered a position.

Bob Goodall, a spokesman for the lobby group, said: "We believe the takeover is wrong

in itself. But, apart from that, is the price on offer seriously undervaluing Birmingham Midshires? We argue the society is worth a lot more than the bank is offering."

Mr Jackson said: "We are continually reviewing the stock market, and the prices in the banking sector, with our advisers. We are working towards achieving the top end of the agreed range and we have nn current plans to seek to review the value with Royal Bank of Scotland," A spokesman added that Mr Jackson and Mr Leighfield had been absent when the board of the society voted on the offer from Royal Bank.

Royal Bank claimed market prices for banks are unusually high and Birmingham Midshires described valuations as "freakish". Both said there were

no plans to bring the bid further into line with the markets. "You are seeing a unique set of circurretances where the banks are significantly overvalued," a spokesman for Royal Bank said.

City analysts view the bid as low-even taking into account assurances given by Royal Bank that staff would keep their jobs for three years. "If I was a policyholder I would prefer to get more money for it," one leading analyst said.

On the basis that the offer price would be shared evenly between the 1 million policyholders at Birmingham Midshires, each can expect around £630 in cash or shares. If the society was sold on a valuation similar to other converted societies, it is believed that policyholders could expect up to twice as much.

## TOURIST RATES

Australia (dollars) Italy (lira) 2.863 Austria (schlittings) 203.57 japan (yen) Belgium (francs) 59,70 Malta (lira) 0.6786 Canada (\$) 2.3059 Netherlands (guilden 3.2538 Cyprus (pounds) Norway (kroner) Denmark (kroner) 11.08 Portugal (escudos) 294.03 Finland (markka) 8.8313 Spain (pesetas) 244.04 France (francs) South Africa (rand) 7.7531 Germany (marks) 2.8953 Sweden (kroner) 12.99 Greece (drachmae) 457.07 Switzerland (francs) 2.3327 Hong Kong (\$) 12.30 Turkey (lira) 355,817 Ireland (punts) 1.1567 1.6003 Source: Thomas Cook Rates for indication purposes only

## Freeport plans £45m designer shopping village in Yorkshire

By Andrew Yates

FREEPORT Leisure, the property group, yesterday unveiled plans to build the biggest designer shopping and leisure village in Europe. The 30-acre retail development will be built near Pontefract

m Yorkshire. The new village will be on the site of the former Glass Houghton coalmine and will cost £45m to build. It will include 250,000 square feet of retail space as well as hars and restaurants.

The development forms part of a grand plan to regenerate the area. Whitbread, the leisure giant, is understood to be planning

to build an indoor ski slope, a hotel and restaurants next door to Freeport Leisure's development. Together, the schemes could bring thousands of new jobs to the area.

Freeport Leisure revealed yesterday that it had cashed in nn disappointing highstreet sales in the run-up to Christmas. Shops were left with huge amounts of excess stock after Christmas which they were forced to off-load to Freeport Leisure at vast discounts. Customers have been able to pick up bargains on up-to-date fashion ranges. The group offers clothes from highstreet retailers such as Next and Laura

Ashley at half price. This will be Freeport's fourth site and

it plans to open another three villages within the next few years. It has recently opened in Braintree, Essex, and is expanding its original site at Hornsea, north of Hull.

To fund the rapid expansion Freeport is likely to launch a rights issue in the near future and is considering forming joint ventures with other property groups. Freeport's shares reacted positively to the news, jumping 30.5p to 289.5p as it announced a rise in pre-tax profits to £1.4m (£1.02m).

Factory outlets and out-of-town retail villages have become extremely popular over the last few years, drawing customers from the high street with offers of cheap

## Christie's board considers £500m consortium offer

THE BOARD of Christie's International, the auction house, was understood to be locked in a meeting last night discussing a £500m offer from a consortium of investors led by SBC Warburg. It is understood that the investment bank, which bas put together a group of wealthy individuals to make the approach, tabled a formal offer on Monday night. Warburg made its initial approach to Christie's before Christmas, Joe Lewis, the Bahamas-based businessman who owns 29.9 per cent of the company, will be the key to any deal.

## Kwik Save name change

THE KWIK SAVE name could be retained for just 200-300 stores under the proposed £1.2bn merger agreement between Kwik Save and Somerfield. It is thought that almost 1,000 of the combined group's 1,400 supermarkets will trade under one national brand, which will be Somerfield, Around 200 would close, with the remainder trading under the Kwik Save format concentrating on a more focused discount concept. The Gateway and Food Giant formats would disappear completely.

## Telefonica delays BT decision

TELEFONICA, Spain's dominant telephones company, yesterday postponed for a week a decision on whether to press ad with an alliance with British Telecom. The Spanish group last year switched from an alliance with AT&T to sign an agreement with BT and its US partner MCI, but the deal collapsed with the failure of the BT-MCI merger. The original deal would have seen BT pay some £300m for a 2 per cent stake in Telefonica, with the Spanish group buying 1 per cent of BT.

## Agreement on due diligence

VENTURE capitalists will from today only be able to sue accountants for limited sums in any dispute over due diligence work. A memorandum of understanding on liability capping brings to an end 15 months of talks prompted by the Big Six accountancy firms' agreement in October 1996 that venture capital due diligence work would be subject to standard terms. The British Venture Capital Association, with represents the leading firms in the field, responded by complaining to the Office of Fair Trading.

### Warning on rail link

COMPANY RESULTS

NOT building the Channel Tunnel Rail Link to St Pancras station would cost the taxpayer more than £1.4bn, Labour MPs were told yesterday. The figure, produced by Camden council, includes £900m worth of projected losses incurred by Eurostar by the year 2001.

_	-011000 2		~	
Earthys (F)	- (-)	1.72bn (2.31bn)	74 4p (104.2p)	37.0p (31 5p)
Cloudelide Group (F)	(R393m (299m)	F27.1m (22.3m)	48 8p (38 8p)	7.3p (6.5p)
Compel Broop (I)	88.8m (89.5m)	3.67m (1.7m)	9 Dp (6.8p)	2.1p (1.8p)
Dabbles Barden (F)	8.49m (6.62m)	1.02m (0.829m)	1.02p (16.0p)	4.5p (1 Bp)
English&OverseesProp(F	)6.04m (5.97m)	0.606m (0.743m)	0 67p (-7.28p)	0 15p
Freeport Laleure (I)	3.99m (3.19m)	1.41m (1 02m)	5.08p (3.42p)	
John Happes (f)	22.3m (21.2m)	D 703m (1.31m)	2.1p (4 Dp)	1.5p
trick Permanent (F)	- (-)	#R66.0m (48.0m)	41.9p (36.3p)	15 3p
Low & Boom (F)	438 7m (420 4m)	30.2m (52.3m)	19.79p (36.6p)	15.6p (14.7p)
Merce 4 (1)	12.15m (11.75m)	5.25m (5.14m)	17 Sp (16.5p)	10.2p (9.7p)
Duerte Group (P)	81.8m (80 6m)	2.9m (7.8m)	7.0p (26.5p)	4.5p (8 0p)
Polyhadren Hidgs (F)	36.4m (30.7m)	4.12m (3.5m)	7.9p (6.4p)	2 <b>6</b> p (2.6p)
Sadgwick (F)	975m (915m)	101.2m (95.5m)	12.8p (11.6p)	7 Dp (6.5p)
Stadiom Group (F)	80.7m (82.5m)	5.76m (4.71m)	15.0p (12.3p)	5.0p (4.5p)
With Group (19)	7.29m (7.08m)	177.4m (153.3m)	15.7p (13.7p)	1.43p (1 14p)
(F) - Final (I) - Interim				

## THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

## WPP looks for further growth

WPP is an object lesson in the virtues of bottom fishing. Although investors who backed Martin Sorrell's attempt to build an advertising empire by dehtfunded acquisition in the late 1980s all hut lost their shirts, those who got in when the future looked bloak have done extremely well. In seven years, the share price has risen elevenfold. Of course, Mr Sorrell, through his lucrative share scheme, has also pocketed a few bob.

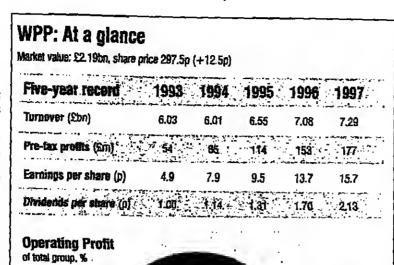
As with all recovery stories, the trick is calling the point when the recovery is complete and the company starts performing in line with the usual ups and downs of its industry. Analysis have signalled that point several times in the past, and been surprised. Yesterday's results, which showed pre-tax profits rising 16 per cent to £177m last year, show that WPP is still improving. Knock out the effects of the strong pound, and profits were up 28 per cent. Operating margins improved by a full percentage point to 11.8 per eent.

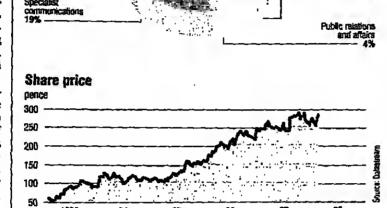
Can it get any hetter? Mr Sorrell who needs to get the WPP share price above 304p and keep it there for two months to receive his final transhe of shares - clearly thinks it can. He sees no reason why WPP should not make similar margins to competitors like Interpublic and Omnicom, which enjoy a return on sales of 13 to 15 per cent. So he is targeting another 1 percentage point margin improvement, to 13.8 per cent, this year.

olenty of new husiness, that looks. The WPP recovery may be over, but achievable. Mr Sorrell expects the with the shares trading on a market global advertising market to grow by rating they still look good value. about 5 per cent in the coming year, and thinks WPP will take market share. Although Asian turmoil will dampen growth. Mr Sorrell believes Sell-off plans fail those markets will prove lucrative in the long term.

Then there is WPP's cash flow. Large acquisitions are apparently too expensive, but the eompany spent £68m on a string of smaller deals last year, and is looking for more. Even so, there is enough left over for WPP to huy back £50m of its own shares this year - twice as much as it had originally planned to.

So where does this leave WPP shares, up 12.5p to 297.5p yesterday? Compared with their US peers, they look cheap. But, even taking a conservative assumption of 4 per cent revenue growth in future years and further slight margin gains. WPP's carnings





Given that WPP is still picking up should grow at about 15 per cent a year.

# to lift Alpha

SHARES in Alpha Airports, the airline catering group, have crash landed in recent months. Yesterday's announcement that it had decided to get out of dutyfree retailing failed to halt the fall. Its share price fell another 1.5p to 71p. almost half the 1994 flotation price of 140p when it was hived off from Forte.

Getting out of retailing makes sense. Threats to the future of duty free a planned investment in Hong Kong at in 1999 and the end of BAA franchises a cost of £1.2m. at Heathrow and Gatwick spell trouble for the company.

market by announcing a £14m hit to elose kitchens at Heathrow and write group's profits and last year saw a 14

husiness at Orly airport in Paris.

Kevin Abhott, the new chief executive, admits the credibility of the group is strained and is trying to do something about it. The proceeds of the retail business, perhaps £60m to £70m. will be poured back into airline catering and ground handling.

An expansion of cut-price airlines throughout Europe could also trigger opportunities. Alpha is already working for easyJet and is bidding for deals with GO, the new BA discount airline,

However, the catering market is still dogged by intense competition. And Sri Lanka apart. Alpba's experiences in Asia have not been happy. Alpha admitted yesterday it might pull out of

have shown interest in Alpha's retail di- to underpin the price, the shares are However, the group shocked the vision but no buyers have emerged so beginning to look auractive.

far. And Mohamed Al Fayed, the Harrods boss who holds a 28 per cent stake in Alpha, has not as yet been tempted to buy up the rest, which may say something for its prospects.

Analysts forecast pre-tax profits of £29m, before the £14m write-off, with earnings likely to be flat the following year. That puts the shares on a prospective price-earnings ratio of 7, a sharp discount to the market. But given the uncertainties surrounding the group that rating looks justified.

#### Sedgwick figures reassure market

DOOM and gloom has surrounded the insurance broking market for the last few years but Sedgwick yesterday gave hope that there may be light at the end of the tunnel.

What used to he meat and drink to Sedgwick - commission income for arranging insurance for corporations - is beginning to look like crumbs from the corporate table. Many multinationals prefer to self-insure. Meanwhile, two giant American predators, Aon and Marsh & MeLennan, are lying in wait.

Against that background, Sedgwick managed to increase underlying profits by an impressive 19 per cent. Although the strong pound restricted profits to £101.2m, or 6 per cent.

Sedgwick's strategy of shifting away from dwindling commission income to fees appears to be working. Noble Lowndes, the big UK benefit consultants, now makes up a quarter of the down the value of its troubled catering per cent growth in income. Sedgwick has also proved adept at moving into emerging markets and also claims to have become the biggest insurance broker in Eastern Europe.

The illusive merger between Sedgwick and Willis Corroon remains just that. Sax Riley, the chairman of Sedgwiek, points out that, as with accountancy mergers, elients may not always he happy. And Willis Corroon last week made it elear it was determined to remain independent.

Even so. Sedgwick should be able to continue to improve earnings and dividends at a decent rate. Its results pleased the market, causing its shares to rise 5p to 146p yesterday. Analysis forecast earnings per share rising from 12.Sp to 13.4p this year, putting the company on a forward p'e ratio of Two potential purchasers are said to under 11. With a yield of 4.8 per cent

## PEOPLE & BUSINESS

JOHN WILLCOCK



TONY DYE, boss of UBS fund management arm PDFM, flew out to Geneva recently to have a pow-wow with his opposite number Gary Brinson, Chicago-based boss of SBC Brinson, who has been anointed head of all institutional asset management in the newly merged investment bank.

After they'd had their little chat over "Kaffee und Kuchen". Mr Brinson offered his new underling a lift back. Mr Dye, of course, expected "a lift back" to mean a trip to Geneva airport in Mr Brinson's hire car. In the event the duo were wafted to Luton airport in Mr Brinson's private jet. They do things so much better in Chicago....

Lord Fanshawe is retiring from the board of Sedgwiek after 50 years with the insurance broker. He joined the board in 1984 and served as chairman from 1993 to 1997. He certainly lasted longer than 90 other Sedgwick employees who are to lose their jobs this year.

The redundancy announcement came yesterday as Sax Riley, the current chairman of Sedgwick, revealed the group's 1997 figures. As Mr Riley addressed the analysts' meeting vesterday morning, be said that he hoped the good figures from the group "would be a good omen for events in Trinidad this afternoon". referring, of course, to the last day of England's Test match against the West Indies.

The gathered analysis, however, could only recall how England's cricketers bave

managed to grab defeat from the jaws of victory so many times before. You could practically hear a pin drop.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has appointed Colin Perry as chairman of its Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Council to replace Tony Bonner.

Mr Bonner will return to Merseyside to run his own business. Contracts Chemicals. Mr Perry is chief executive of LTE Scientific, a manufacturer of microbiological laboratory equipment with sales of £3m based near Oldham. In the past Mr Perry has worked for Reed International and has been chairman and chief executive of the Birmingham Mint Group.

Incidentally, did you know that Adair Turner, head of the CBL is a second cousin of Anthea Turner, the television presenter?

Speaking of Titans of Industry, Sir John & Harvey-Jones has hit the headlines with his announcement that he now devotes 20 minutes a day to Transcendental Meditation (TM).

Sir John, the former chairman of ICI, The Economist and Grand Metropolitan, is still one of the country's best-known industrialists. As such he will visit a head-hunting firm. The Devonshire Group, tomorrow as it moves to new offices in the City. Part of the visit will involve Sir John in taking a psychometric test.

Such tests are used by companies to try to attract employees with the right character for the job, although how answering daft questions - such as, "Would you rather be a novelist or a clockmaker?" - helps in the process heats me.

A Californian-based drugs company has hired its second heavyweight Russian politican in a month. ICN Pharmaceuticals has recruited Sergei Gryzanov. Russia's former minister of press and information between 1994 and 1996, as vice president of public relations and communications for Europe.

Mr Gryzunov was also deputy editor-inchief of the Novosti Russian News Agency; spending eight years in Yugoslavia as its chief correspondent. This follows the appointment of Andrei Kozyrev, former minister of foreign affairs, to ICN's board.

Milan Panic, chairman and chief executive officer of ICN, says the company is engaged on this hiring spree in order to become "the leading pharmaceutical company in Russia and Eastern Europe". It looks like it's well on the. way, as it already employs more than 13,300 people in Eastern and Central Europe, Who next? Mikhail Gorbachev? :

The transfer of the transfer o



Bob Gayron (left) and Boh Phillis of Guardian Media

ALL is not well at the top of the Guardian Media Group. Rati; monr reaches me that Bob Phillis, newly appointed chief executive, has already locked horns with the extraordinary-looking Bob Gavron, founder of the St Ives printing group and GMG's chairman, or "Minister without Portfolio", as he has been dubbed by those who are at a loss to work out precisely what he does round there. Apparently, the chilled atmosphere is in part due to GMG's proposed link-up with the Dutch television production giant Endemol Entertainment. The two sides are setting up a television joint venture, chaired by Mr Phillis, that would take control of GMG's Broadcast Communications. But Mr Gavron is less than impressed by the deal, and has told Mr Phillis so. No doubt we will read about it all in The Guardian's media pages.

# Employers, find out how the Disability Discrimination Act affects

Because the Act protects disabled people against discrimination in employment, it's in your interest to find out more. Call 0345 622 633, textphone 0345 622 644 quoting OCS1A, or fill in this coupon and send it to DDA Information Line, FREEPOST MID 02164, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 9BR.

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# Footsie surges past the 5,700 milestone

MARKET REPORT



The same

**i**pport

DEREK PAIN

Footsie climbed to a new peak ment aherratinn. - rushing ahead 89.6 points to

close at 5,709.5. With seconds 10 points surge ensured it ended at its best level of the day, comfortably into 5,700

hit new highs, with the midcap over 5,000 for the first time, but once again it was a blue shares.

The record January deht repayment, a rampaging New York opening and expectations of yet more corporate action spurred the stock market.

Another, even more important influence, was evideot - buying from domestic institutions.

Many fuod managers have this year been desperately trying to redress their earlier

Now they are scrambling to catch up. Many must be unto go it looked as though the der intense pressure from index would miss the milestone their trustees, dismayed by the of a 5,700 close. But a sudden poor performance uf many

The sale by Accor, the French hotel group, of 5 per day, and Dixons in the other retailers drew comfort cent of Compass, the contract relegation zone. The supporting indices also caterer, was cited as an example of fund managers' urgent need for good quality

> Accor sold to Dresdner Kleinwort Bensoo and HSBC, seeming at 801p. The two then placed the shares at 810p with institutions. The sale was completed in the proverbial blink of an eye.

The French once had 20 per cent of Compass. Their shareholding stemmed from the takeover of the Eurest catering group io 1995. They oow have 4.7 per cent.

hinder the cateror's bid for 1,071p. inclusion in Fuutsie when the steering committee meets to 467p. next month.

On current form Compass and Northern Rock are set for to 484p, as Hendersoo sugmembership with Rank, reporting year's figures on Fri- overvalued at 500p. Many

BT added 13p to 590p. Option activity was a factor. There was also buying ahead of an investment dinner at London's Claridges Hotel, hosted by Henderson Crosthwaite, for 16 fund man-

surances, were again strong but Barclays, on its results. slumped 118p to 1,813p. And National Westminster Bank lost 9p tn 1,165p as the prospect of a Barclays strike seemed to weaken. Insurer

Financials, particularly in-

For the seventh time this year Fontsie display as an invest- The French sale should nut not far behind, up 55p at with Marks & Spencer up Fontsie display as an invest- The French sale should nut not far behind, up 55p at 130 or 5800 and Next 23.50 to

Norwich Union rose 14.5p

Arcadia, the retailer solit from Debenhams, eased 3.5p gested the shares would look from the market's huoyancy placed 13.5 million shares.



13p at 580p and Next 23.5p to 831p. But poor old Sears once again missed the fun. The shares fell 1.5p to 49.5p; they were 83p a year ago.

Another long-term casualty, engineer BTR, shaded to 161.5p. Credit Suisse First Bostoo was thought to have

A touch of reality surfaced at Tadpole Technologies with the shares falling 14p to 32.5p as some of the more nimble fonted speculators snatched their profits. Last week they were 10p and on Mooday

touched 62p. Ivory & Sime, the fund manager, returned at 201.5p from a 197p suspension. Dealings were halted to allow the £132m merger with Friends Provideot to be put together. The new group will manage funds of £22bn. Amvescap. the fund manager rose 11.5p

Davis Service, the garment hire and laundry group taking in the Spring Grove and Sunlight names, climbed 12.5p to 339.5p, a new high. US buying

is said to be spurriog the shares. There is also talk it plans a major acquisition in the laundry industry.

Prestwick, a printed circuit boards maker, hardened 8.5p to 58p after disclosing a bid

approach. Two months ago the shares were 30.5p. TT, the acquisitive conglomerate, sits on 7.8 per cent of the capital and is the most likely pred-Food group Cavaghan &

Gray jumped 30p to 111.5p as Northern Foods mounted an agreed 115p a share offer, pricing the company at £79.2m.

Freeport Leisure put on 30p to 289.5p. Interim profits emerged 39 per cent higher at £1.4m; the factory outlet group

TAKING STOCK

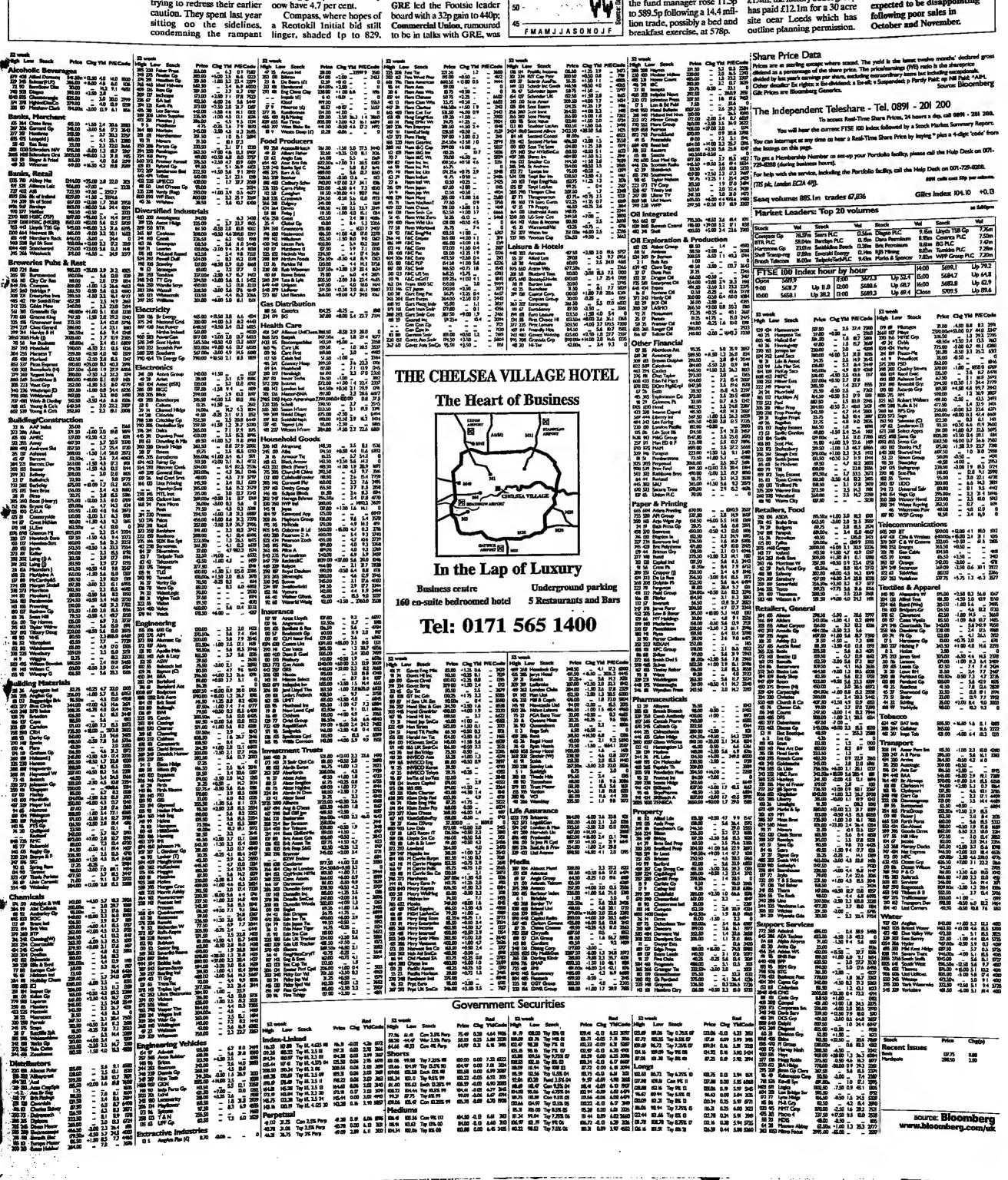
Radius, the computer group, firmed to 35.5p after director and 13.5 per cent shareholder Edward Sharp failed to oust chairman Michael Roberts and chief executive Philip Kelly. Mr Sharp consequently left the board. There is talk high-flying Lynx, up 1.5p at 166.5p, could pounce.

Telecom Plus, offering a cheap service to 6,000 customers, got its wires crossed, collapsing 33p to 17.5p on

A new major shareholder and chairman failed to offset the shock of a cash raising exercise and mandatory 5p-ashare bid. New chairman, with a 51 per cent, is Charles Wigoder, founder of Peoples Phone, taken over by Vodafone for £77m.

Sock maker Pex is said to be planning a 3p rights issue. The shares held at 3.25p. Although interim figures were higher, year's out-turn is expected to be disappointing following poor sales in

source: Bloomberg



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No. 1 The Control of the Control of

المذاعن ألاطا.

# \*Jockey Club criticised over Top Cees

TOM CLARKE, editor of The lo win on Top Cees at New-mance on Top Cees at Newfended his newspaper against libel claims levelled at it by the say the article was libellous trainer Lynda Ramsden, her husband Jack and the champi-00 jockey Kieren Fallon.

The Ramsdens and Fallon are suing The Sporting Life over an editorial which accused them jury he was "very surprised" of "cheating" their way to victory in the May 1995 Chester Cup on Top Cees. The horse the Swaffham Handicap dehad just three wecks earlier come fifth in the Swaffham Handicap at Newmarket.

The article, headlined "Contempt for the Puoter", described the victory as "seedy and deeply unpopular" and accused Fallon of deliberately not trying

By Richard Edmondson

57.5

ADRIAN MAGUIRE com-

pleted the fairytale oo his return

from mjury yesterday but now has

his mind set on the big story. Reg-

istering a double at Leicester is one thing, but now the Irish jock-

ey is focused oo racing's Super

PETER NIVEN was dis-

charged from North Tees Hos-

pital in Stockton last night after

injuring his neck in a fall from

Flying North at the first flight at Sedgefield yesterday. Flying

Bookmakers began betting

yesterday on Saturday's Eider

EIDER HANDICAP CHASE (4m 1f): Ante-

poet odds (Corale): 11-2 Kamikaze, 7-1 In-dian Arrow, Semilee, 8-1 Linden's Lotto, 9-1

Domaine De Pron. St. Melfon Fairway, 10-1 Stormtracker, 14-7 Into The Red. 15-1 Ceilidh Boy, Ceridwen, Kileshin, Thermal Warrior, Win-ter Beile, 20-1 Parsons Boy, Russian Ceetle, Scotton Benks, 25-1 others

LEICESTER
2.20; 1. COLONEL BLAZER (J F Titley)
6-4 fav; 2. Rogat Aura 10-1; 3. Gaelle Blue
9-4, 6 rant, 4, 6. (Miss H Knight, Wartage).
Toto: E270; F120, E380. Duel Forecast:

28.50. CSF: E7414.
2.50: 1. TOTALLY YOURS (A P McCoy)
sens kay, 2. Shahrani Yo-I; 3. Eurolink The
Lad Yo-1. 15 ran. 1, 6. (M Pipa, Wellington).
Tota: \$200; E10; \$240; \$230 DF: \$820, CSF:
\$232 Top: \$5530

£13.22. Tro: £53.70. 3.20: 1. THE MOOR (R Thornton) 10-11

tav. 2. Cabille 33-1: 3. Desert Calm 25-1.

fav; 2. Cabille 33-1; 3. Desert Catm 25-1 14 ran. 12.3 (Rorrpidns, Newmarket) Tota: 190; C150, C790, C830, DF: 53-70. CSF: 34574. Tro: 52360. Non Runners: Frank Unows & Orchid House. 3.50: 1. MACGEORGE (A Maguire) 7-4 far; 2. Yeoman Warrior 6-1; 3. Random Har-vest 9-4. 4rm. 8.1 ft. Rice, Prestrigne). Tota: 5240. DF: 5560. CSF: 2860. 4.20: 1. BANKAR (A Magure) 4-9 fav; 2. Fabiliste 11-2: 3. West And See 33-1. 11 ran. 2, 13. (D Nicholson, Temple Guiting). Tota: 5150; 5170. C150, 5750. DF: 5240. CSF: 53-4. Tro: 53170. NR: Doyenne.

E150, £150, £150, £750, DF; £240, CSF; £3.44 Thir £3170, NF; Doyname. 4.50; 1. BERYLLIUM (A P McCoy) \$9-4; 2. Darby 17-4; 3. Oistant Storm 2-1 fav. 5; ran. 374, 374, (M Pioc, Walington), Totte £240; £210, £150, DF; £460, CSF; £837, NR;

LINGFIELD

2.10: 1. SIMILET (W Ryan) 4-9 tav; 2. Watkins 7-1; 3. Mac's Back 4-1 4 ren. 2%. nk. (W Jarvis) Tote: £130. DF: £190. GSF:

3.10: 1. FAST FRANC (D Holland) 8-4 text

3.10: 1. FAST FRANC (D Holland) 6-4 tav; 2. Trebia Term 5-2; 3. Orange Bush 11-2 5 ran. 9.3 (T.) Naughton). Tota: \$2:00; \$150, 07: \$2.00 (SF; E502). 3.40: 1. THREADNEEDLE (D Hamson) 3-10 fav; 2. Private Despetich 6-1; 3. Auguston). 50: \$2.00 (Franch 10.) 12-2. (Lord Huntingdon). Tota: \$140; \$130, \$2.30. DF; £3.60. \$4.10: 1. Bell 1.4.2.

4.10: 1. 8 RILLIANT RED (A Clark) 13-8

tav; 2. Chairmans Choice 13-2; 3. Billad-die 14-1 8 ran. 21/s. nk. (P Hedger). Tota: 5210; 5120, 5190, 5210. DF: 5710. CSF: 51247.

Tricest: \$103.28.
4.40: 1. CHINGACHGOOK (P Doe)
5-2: 2. Zorro 4-1; 3. Jubitee Scholar 6-1
11 ran. 7-4 fav North Arder: shi-hd. 15. (S
Dow). Tote: \$10.20; £2.50, £2.50, £2.20. DF:
£23.60. CSF: £33.11. Tricest: £175.78. Tric

SEDGEFIELD

Placepot: £33.00. Quadpot: £700. Place 6; £23.30. Place 5: £1.37.

SEDGEFIELD

2.00: 1. NORTHERN MAESTRO (G
Lee) 8-1: 2. Thunderpoint 8-1: 3. Bather 12-1
14 ran. 5. 6. (Mrs M Reveley, Saliburn). Total:
18:00: 12-20. 63:50, 04:80. DF: 125:80. CSF:
15:317. Tricast: 154:44. Tric. 159:80. NR:
Stonesby. Swandale Flyer, Stonesby (11-2
law) withdrawn not under orders. Rule 4 epplies to all bets, declucion 15p in 2.
2.30: 1. TOTEM FOLE (P Nivar) 8-1; 2.
Rusk 6-4 fav; 3. Ballydarvid 10-1. 15 ran. 7.
10. (Mrs M Reveley, Saliburn). Total: 12.70.
13:30: 17:00: 1270. DF: 10:90: CSF: 12:99! Trice
15:30: 17:00: 1270. DF: 10:90: CSF: 12:99! Trice
15:30: 17:00: 12:70. DF: 10:90: CSF: 10:

\$63.40. NR: Our Carol. 3.00: 1. FATEHALICHAIR (C McComme-

283.40. NR: Our Carol.
3.00: 1. FATEHALICHAIR (C McCommed) 7-2.2 Bures 5-2.3. Advance East 12-1
11 ren. 3-1 tax Flying North (feb) 7.5 (B Elson, Consett. Co Durham) Tokes 54.70. S190.
2300. 2290. DR: \$19.20. CSF: \$30.58. Trio825: E27506. Thio: \$220.00.
4.00: 1. KILDRIMMY CASTLE (G Lee)
8-1: 2. Silver Mitox 5-2; 3. Val de Rama 7-1
a ran. 6-4 fax Singing Sand (pulled up), 2.
a. (J. FitzGerald, Malforn). Tota: \$280; \$23.0.
C11, \$210. DR: £790. CSF: £28.93. Thosst
\$1.4061. Trio: £20.40. NR: Counterbelance.
3.30: dead-heat 1. GALEN (A S Smith)
3-1 ji fax; dead-heat 1. SILLY PET (N Bertiley) 50-1; 3. Apache Raider 4-1 12 ran. 3
ji fax Silers Staker. dead-heat, 4. (Mrs M
Reveley, C Pogeon, Salthum). Tota: Galen
1:90. S8y Pet 590.60; Galen £190, S8y Pet
1:30. £170. DF: £1900. CSF: Galen, S8y
Pet £7301. S8y Pet, Galen £91.55. Thio: £258.0
(Deat won). NRs: Always A Pauper, Copperhurst, Pasrits Choica.
4.30: 1. SHANAVOGH (J Callagham) 4-5
ax; 2. Riye Crossing 9-1; 3. Ediatone 20-1
12 ran. 13. 8. (6 Moore, Middelnam). Tota:
200: £130, £240. DF: £980. CSF:
200: £130, £240. DF: £980. CSF:
200: £130, £240. DF: £980. CSF.

5.00: 1. COOLAW (Mr Paul Murphy) 4-6

5.00: 1. COOLAW (W PSII wully) Fix 2. Petersen House 20-1: 3. Heimsley Fixer 14-1: 14 ran. 2/n. 8. (F Murphy, Michelm). Tota: £180; £100, £560, £550. DF: £3170: CSF: £2277. Tho: £2550. Jackpote not won (pool of £6£50.92 carried forward to Musseburgh today). Placepot: £7270. Guandpot: £1770. Placepot: £7230. Guandpot: £1770. Place 6: £7450. Place 5: £3363.

Place 6: £13469. Place 5: £3363.

Bight November. Placepot: \$26.00. Quadpot: £6.70.

Place 5: £56.73. Place 5: £37.28.

1,500

North was fatally injured.

Chase at Newcastle.

Results

It can seem odd to hear

Bowl at Prestbury Park.

and caused grave harm to their reputations, but the newspaper insists it was both true and justified in the public interest.

Clarke told the High Court when stewards who inquired into Top Cees' performance in cided to give Fallon "the benefit of the doub!" and take no action against him.

The horse had been the subject of a full Jockey Club inquiry four months earlier after a race at Edinburgh, the court heard. Clarke said Fallon's perfor-

market at the very least deserved to be reported to the Jockey Club by the stewards. On this particular horse in this particular race it was almost laughable that, just 20 yards or so from the finish, the whip came out at last," said Clarke, standing by his newspaper's

claims that Top Cees had been "tenderly handled" at Newmarket. Clarke said he had also closely munitored reports in the rival newspaper, the Racing Post, to gauge the views of the racing community on Top Cces' performance at Newmarket.

The Post's "Mark your Card"

comment, and no wonder". It tair Down, "Even as Top Cees went on to express the view that was passing the post, Alastair Top Coes "would surely have and I turned to each other and won had he been ridden a said: We must do something shade more aggressively".

Clarke said the Life had given "substantial coverage" to the Chester Cup, one of the most prominent races in the early part of the Flat season. A video of Channel 4's cov-

played to the court in which the commentator commented on Top Cees' performance at Newmarket, saying: "If it had happened in Australia, they'd have been off for months."

Top Cees had attracted "much race with Life colleague Alasabout this'," he told the jury.

Asked to substantiate the newspaper's accusations that the horse's win at Chester had been "seedy and deeply unpopular". Clarke said: "The reception after the race, I erage of the Chester Cup was thought it was muled and very said: "I felt that the Jockey Club, modest."

Speaking of his determination to "do something about" Top Cees' victory, Clarke added: "This is where we put on our hats as an authoritative Clarke said he had watched and independent voice on raccolumn on 25 April observed the television coverage of the ing. We would do one of our oc-Bakkar helps Maguire to return at the double

it was very much one of those situations where we had to do a leading article because there was something which had obviously caused great concern."

After the victory, numerous telephone calls were received by Life's newsdesk and race officials, he claimed. Asked how he felt about the stewards' decision to take no further action, Clarke by not pursuing the Top Cees case more thoroughly, had not satisfied the natural public demand for a proper inquiry and a proper answer.

Jockey Club to regulate racing and all racing depends on the

casional comment pieces. I felt Jockey Club behaving firmly and consistently. One of The Sporting Life's roles is to monitor and from time to time disagree and to make our feelings known clearly."

Asked how the Life viewed the racing public, Clarke added: "As our best friend. As our principal purchasers. As people who do not have a real voice in racing. They are not represented on the Jockey Club or on the British Horseracing Board.

"It is absolutely essential to the confidence of horse racing. If the punters are to lose coofidence in horse racing the "It is the only real role of the game does not have a very good future."

The hearing continues.

## Bell calls for change

most influential figure in the offcourse herting industry, yesterday called for a "visible, easily accessible and independent route" for the resolution of disputes between punters and bookmakers.

Speaking at the annual general meeting of the Betting Office Licensees Association. Bell - the organisation's chairman starting point. "The punter has and also managing director of Ladhrokes - said that "customers want to know that when they place a bet, if there is a problem they have a realistic

CHRIS BELL, perhaps the and transparent redress to their query."

In this, Bell merely echoed demands from the now-defunct National Association for the Protection of Punters, although he insisted later that memories of NAPP had nothing to do with it. Indeed, he feels The Sporting Life's Green Seal Service, muchreviled by NAPP, is a good to know it is not just a bookmakers' quango," he said. "We need to give what we've got a much higher profile."

**Greg Wood** 

## Maguire talking about an ea-

gerness to return to the Festival. The meeting holds terrible memories for him as it morks two dreadful injuries and the

competiog at Cheltenham for the last three years. When he was last at the big

one we talked of Maguire the jockeys' champion-in-waiting. Now, at 26, a title seems no longer guaranteed and he looks to make the most of his opportunties (including requesting

payment for interviews). Maguire was in evidence in the Midlands yesterday as he thumped home Macgeorge and

death of his mother, all of Bakkar in his celebrated in- son, who will provide much of ming. You can do all that hut which have prevented him from domitable style. "He has given the horse a brilliant ride," Richard Lee, the trainer of the former, said. "I can honestly say

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Trojan Hero (Wolverhampton 3.10) NB: Adilov (Lingfield 3.30)

The admirable portion of I don't think anyone else would have won on the horse today." Win No 2 was for his retained stable of David Nichol-

twice in recent months. "The arm is good," he said, "I have used both hands no problem and it's great to come back and

Cotswolds oext month. His

Maguire was also pleased

with the recuperation of the

right arm he has now fractured

tle hit," he said.

have two winners.

"It's cleared the cobwehs a lit- I have been less fit than I was today. I'll be easing myself back with Cheltenham in mind." Maguire has already avowed that, in the near future, he will he partnering only animals who have numbers in front of their name rather than form which

race filoess. Ooce or twice

looks like a Scrabble rack. He proves a point with his single "I have been doing weight- ride at Lingfield today. It is in lifting and runoing and swim- the humper.

his task with 12st on this faster ground is not immediately obvious. Walter's Destiny made up for getting bogged down in the mud when favourite at Exeter by holding on well over a longer top at Wincanton. The runner-up did not do a lot for the form at Plumpton on Monday, but an 8b nes still leaves Walter's Destiny at the right end of this low-leay hand-cap. Winning chaster The Carrot Main may not have sufficient pace for hurding. Minguis, who found form when runner-up in a big field of plates at Fortived last time, might have a botter chance, but Adillov is well weighted on Followishone form with North End Lady and could win the battle of the these lightweights.

Selection: DESRY'S GLORY

# 4.00 THREE COUNTIES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,900 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value \$2,306

# 4.30 R E SASSOON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £1,350 added 3m Penality Value £1,047 1 /52- DOUBLESILK (294) (D) (8F) (R C Wilsons R C Wilsons R 1/27 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr R Treloggen (5) 2 PFSU HOLLAND HOUSE (B) (CD) (E Kright) P Chamings 12 12 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr C Vigons (5) 3 3420- SHISAT (283) (D) (Mrs T O Brown) J Tuck N 12 6 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr D McPhell (5) 4 P/PH TOMCAPPAGH (259) (D) (Mrs S Wai) S Wai) 7 12 6 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr A Went (7)

BETTING: 10-11 Double Sitt, 11-10 Holland House, 16-1 Striset, 25-1 Remouppage.

1997 Viconing De Valmont, 12, 12, 2 M T Minchel, 53, 3-1 (P Nicholis) 13 has FORM GUIDE.

The question is whether 14-year-old Double Silik, twice a winner of the Cheltenham Forhunter and countless other races, still has it in him. HOLLAND HOUSE was talled off and pulsed up when Double Silik was fifth after going so well for a long way in last season's Cheltanham showplece, but the effort from the younger horse when beaten a neck and the same by Proud Sun and Fantus in a point-to-point last month might show in fitness. Olie McPhall should make some difference to Strate, then again he is not getting any younger and is better with a test of stamina.

Selection: HOLLAND HOUSE

# 5.00 LEVY BOARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) \$1,500 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value \$1,340 \_( Law

BETTING: 7-2 Dragon Lord, 4-1 Rockoffile Gossip, Facts Not Fiction, 18-1 Stater Dee, Moon Bry, 12-1 Kingsmark, Son of Gien, Try Me And See, 14-1 others 1997: Resek 5 11 4 R Durwoody 2-1 (Lady Hornes) 14 ran

#### Niven escapes Lingfield in a fatal fall

HYPERION

2.30 Litening Conductor 3.00 FUJIYAMA CREST (nap) 3.30 Western Chief

S.00 Dragon Lord

4.00 Erlking

4.30 Hotland House

OOHNG: Chase course - Good (Good to Firm in places); Hurdle course - Good (Good to Firm in places but Good to Soft in back straight).

Left-hand, uncluding course with stiff fences.

Course is SE of town on 82028, Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: All andicourse \$10. CAR PARIC Club 53; remainder tree.

LEADING TRAINERS: Miliple 14 (unners from 55 runners (255%), G L Moore 9-38 (23.7%), I Critical Dad 571-84. N Tudente-Double 8-63 (25.7%). ■ LEADING INANCESS IN PIDE 15 (UTNESS NOTI 55 RUTHESS (25.7%),

I Gifford 9-42 (21.4%), IN Twiston-Dowles 8-33 (24.7%),

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 16 wirners from 52 rides (30.8%), N Williamson 10-54 (18.5%), A P McCoy 8-34 (23.5%), M A Filizgerald 8-36 (22.2%),

■ FAVOURITES: 758 wins from 2,238 races (23.3%),

BLINKERED by TIME: Castle Barry (23.0), Jester Minute (3.00), Western Chief (visored, 3.30),

2.00 ORPINGTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,443

successful forely tiere, scoring impressively over an extra three furloring in December, and should take coming back in distance in his stride as long the tester ground does not find him dut. He went well for a long way against seasoned handicappers at Kempton over Christmas. Fourdained won the battle for second behind Teeatral at Folkestone, though by the time he got going the winner was home. A promising start all the serie, but Supply And Demand was much better on the Flat and likely to prove superior over hurdles. Supply And Demand has been away since his successful start over hurdles at Newbury in November, if he hurdles with more fluency, and the chances are he has been well schooled. in the meantrine, he could prove a very big danget. Florentino, who has shown up well in his two starts, could be the surprise package.

Selection: FRE BALL

## 2.30 OXTED NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f

	Ŀ		110yds Penaity Value £4,143
	1	221P	HUM IN HAW (26) (D) (Mison Partners) Miss A M Newton-Smith 7 ft 10 N Williamson
1	2	0-1FF3	THE PROMS (48) (C) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 7 ft 10C Liewellyn V
1	3		WHO AM I (34) (D) (H Weistead) R Ainer 6 TI 10
	4	P-633U	BENJI (9) (A A W Jackson) T Casey 7 11 4
	5	-06005	CLOCK WATCHERS (23) (W R Shere) J Bridger 10 TI 4
1	6	Pft2P/	CROSA'S DELIGHT (761) (BF) (Bisgrove Partnership) M Pipe 11 11 4 A P McCoy
	7	2-P4UF	DONNINGTON (19) (B T Stewart-Brown) D Sherwood 6 11 4 J A McCarthy
	6	1/	LITENING CONDUCTOR (679) (K Goess-Saurau) N Henderson 6 11 4 M A Fitzgerald
	8	133-22	ONE WORD (4) (Berishre Commercial Components) D Williams 6 11 4 Mr 8 Durpck (5)
	10	4-1346	FULLP (FR) (80) (Roger Barby) F Doumen (Fr) 5 11 0
	Ħ	4P0FP0	CASTLE BARRY (21) (Mrs S Wall) Mrs A M Newton-Smith 7 10 13

BETTING: 6-4 Fullp, 11-2 Litening Conductor, 6-1 The Prems, Donnington, 8-1 Cross's Delight, 12-1 Hum 'o' Hong Who Ara I, 18-1 others 1967. Gitter Iste 7 1: 10 P Huis 13-8 fav IJ Gifford) 13 cm

1997. Gitter isle 7 in 10 P Hide 13-8 fav (J Gifford) 13 ran FORM GUIDE Five-year-olds get a big allowance at the time of year and French raidor FULIP has to be the choice, getting weight as he does from all bar moderate mere Castle Barry and that includes a penalty for whoning at Auteuil in September. He also ran well when fourth in a valueble chase there in November. Despite at that, two of the home side. The Proms and Donnington, are more furnar capable of making life difficult for the Gallic invader over lences that are more furnar in them. Having made a winning start over Haydock's big fences. The Proms blundered his way out of his next two starts and it was

reassuring to see him get home in third behind subsequent whiner Pennymoor Prince in atroclous conditions at Exiter on New Year's Day. A clear round would make him a big danger. A clear round is what Dominigton needs after failing to complete at Ludiow and Folkestion, though each time he would not have been far away. The Ludiow form is working our well and the 6th Dominigon gets from the penalised The Proms puts him night there. A bad mistake five out put pand to any expectations The dark horse is Littenlier. Conductor, without a run since writing a Worcester bumper nearly two years ago. It will be interesting to see how he and Crossa's Dellight go.

Selection: FULIP

the Maguire arsenal in the you still need to improve your

jockey appreciated the exercise. when coming back from injury

#### 3.00 SANDERSTEAD MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,900 added 2m 7f Penalty Value £2,833 OD AIRBOURINE PRINCE (71) (John Cartrill) N Babbage 6 11 6... 5P2 BALLYHARRY (21) (D R Obank) P Winkworth 6 11 6....

OP.	CACHALOT (81) (Dwight Maluns) C Mortock 6 ft 8	B Powe
	FULIYAMA CREST (19) (Poger Barnes) N Henderson 6 11 6	
	ICKFORD OKEY (32) (P.J. Morgan) C Morlock 6 Tt 6	
	MORY COASTER (NZ) (26) (Dens Andrews) 6 De Hoss 7 TI 6	
	RHYTHM AND BOOZE (Dr John Heathcock) J Tuck 6 11 6	S McNe
	RIVERSIDE STROLL (Bisgrove Partnershp) M Ploe 6 11 6	C Maulo
12-0	RUPERT BLUES (84) (Robert Skiller) J King 6 Tl 6	M Richard
55/	TORBOY (717) (Paul Green) M Pipe 8 ti 8	A P McCo
	TUCKERS TOWN (68) (Mrs Jean R Bishop) O Sherwood 6 11 8	
054	FRINGE BENEFIT (30) (A J Kershaw) J Gittors 7 to 3	
OYOOO	GREMANNEE (28) (Ales J K Powell) N Babbage 7 ft 3	M Kelahley (
00	SEVENTH WAVE (6) (T M Chandler) R Rowe 6 11 3	A Gently C
ᅃ	JESTER MINUTE (19) (S & Components) & Pearce 4 10 10	P Henley (3)
05	FOLEYS QUEST (F11) (Ernie Houghton) J S Moore 4 105	Mages &

BETTING: 9-4 Fulfyama Crest, 4-1 hery Coaster, 5-1 Torboy, 6-1 Riverside Stroll, Tuckers Town, 8-1 Rupert Blues, 20-1 Fritige Benefit, 25-1 others.

1997. Warner For Phycrs 6 ti 6 N Williamson 10-11 for P Hobbs) 15 mm
FORM GUIDE

FUJIYAMA CREST, more famous for being Franken Detton's seventh winner of the day at Ascot in September 1996, can find some irrelight again. He did not run after Ascot until finishing fourth behind 2 prelately 2 own or misufficient two miles there on his hunding debut last November, since when he has come up with two better afforms as he has stepped up in distance. If he would put a finish more heart and in he is capable of writing the weaker race. This is an easier heat then the one in which horry Coaster made the running at Ascot last time, but the severn-year-old does not have a lot of luck and there is a danger of finding one too good yet again. Bellyharry was left a remote second to Krisclifte at the final flight here and Tucker's Town, as pedestrian as he has looked, will appreciate this longer trip. He seems a better alternative unless burnor where Ruppert Blues, a fulbrother to successful hundler Thrower, does substantially better than on his hundling debrother to successful hurdler Thrower, does substantially better than on his hurdling dethe extra four and a half turiongs

#### 3.30 WARLINGHAM HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$2,400 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,126

	I ANLE MY SIDE (21) (U) (U) (M) (M) MODERS M J HODERS 6 12 0 II Thorrison
/44-05	HAWTHORNE GLEN (19) (C) (Mrs D C Foster) J Long 11 11 4
480	WESTERN CHIEF (28) (Miss B W Palmer) D Williams 4 10 8
42-253	THE CARROT MAN (54) (Ars .II Winkworth) P Winkworth to to 8 Air D McPhell (5)
5-22P1	WALTER'S DESTINY (28) (C W Machel) C Mitchel 5 10 8 S Michel
4650	ADILOV (12) (Trevor Mitchell) J Bridger 6 10 1 M Betchelor (7)
P04	DERRY'S GLORY (48) (P R Hedger) P Hedger 6 10 1 M Richards
P4551	NORTH END LADY (35) U J Sulivan) Mrs L Jowel 7 to 0
	FLOW BACK (12) (D Leon) G Enright 6 10 6 R Johnson V
OP060/	ROSEVEAR (713) (Mrs S C Herre) S Meltor 6 10 0 C Webb (3)
340000	REACH FOR GLORY (58) (Graham Richards) Graham Richards 9 to 0 M Griffiths (7)
FU-002	MINGUS (USA) (5) (C E Grover) R Bucker 11 10 0
	HOTSPUR STREET (23) (Mrs D Semworth) E.L. James 6 10 6 Miles S Semworth (7) 8

50 00000 HOUSE-UR STREET (23) (see to Sermonth) E. Lamas 6 (10 L. James 5 Sermonth (7) 8 — 13 declared — 
14 feetinam weight: 16st. Two handicep weights: Flow Back & Roseveer 9st 12th, Reach For Glory 9st 7th, 
Mingue & Hotspur Street 9st 6th.

BETTING: 7-2 Weiter's Destiny, 9-2 Take My Side, 8-1 North End Lady, 13-2 The Cerrot Men, 7-1 
Addice, 10-1 Decry's Glory, Flow Beck, 12-1 others 
997: Total Joy 6 11 13 R Dunwoody 5-1 cor fer (C Marris) 13 ran 
FORM GUIDE.

FORM SUIDE

Tailed cit and pulled up in good ecompany that time out, DERRY'S GLORY at least got home, even if had only two behind him, here at Christmas and stepped up on that with his staying-on fourth to Native Charm at Windsor on New Year's Day. Those three runs qualify him for a handleap mark - a pound more than the minimum - and if he improves as he has been he is weighted to take a hand here over what should be a more sustable trp. For a horse that won twice on the Flat is heliand lest year Western Chief has a resonable weight for his first by in a handleap. The four-year-old does at least take a drop or grade and it would be no surprise to see him step up appreciably on his three runs, especially with Seemus Durack taking Sib cit. Take My Side beat two subsequent winners when pulling off a shock on heavy ground at Phumpton last month and was widely expected to follow up here three weeks ago. He blundered upsides Kriscliffe two out and

Musselburgh HYPERION 2.20 Sparky (nb) 2.50 China King 3.20 Tawafij 3.50 Tico Gold 4.20 Secret Bay 4.50 Over The

Beck GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places © Flight-hand ovel course with sight turns.

● Right-hand ovel course with sight turns.

● Course is 5m E of Edinburgh on A1. Bue link from Edinburgh station 5m. ADMINSSION: Caub 512; Tattersalls £6 (CAP's and undernployed £3). Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARK: Pree.

● LEADING TRAINERS: M Hammond 29-124 (23.4%). J Howard Johnson 19-106 (17.9%). P Monteith 14-83 (18.9%). Mrs 6 Bradborne

Johnson 8-10 (13%), Parkson 11-94 (11.7%)

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A Dobbin 18-112 (14.3%), 2 Storey 15-52 (14.4%), P Carberry 14-49 (28.8%), P Niven 12-75 (16%), ● FAVOURITIES: 18-284 (11.5%), B LINKERED FIRST TIME: Spark (2.20), Uk Hygiene (2.50), Risky

2.20 TOM MCCONNELL MEMORIAL JUVE-NILE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

£3,500 added 4YO 2m 

2.50 McEWANS LAGER NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m 

Dony der 72th. BETTRIG: 8-11 Chine King, 5-1 Caritisie Bandiko's, 7-1 Jack Yesta, 5-1 Uk Hygiene, 10-1 Falcon's Flame, 18-1 Jack Dory MCEWANS 70' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m

3.50 MILLER PILSNER J. R. MCNAIR HAND-ICAP CHASE (CLASS F) 25,000 added 3m

4.20 JOHN SMITHS EXTRA SMOOTH HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) \$2,500

- 11 Justines -BETTING: 11-8 Secret Bay, 5-1 Howayman, 6-1 Postage Stamp, 7-1 Gold Site, 10-1 Border Glory, 12-1 General Brandy, 14-1 Fish Guay, 20-1 others

4.50 BEAMISH IRISH RED NOVICE HAND-ICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) 25,000 added

6 04540 CHARITER (28) W Shorey 7 10.2 R McGrath (3) V Shorey 7 10.2 R Shorey 6 10.2 R McGrath (3) V Shorey 6 10.2 R McGrath (3) V Shorey 6 10.2 R McGrath (3) R Shorey 6 10.2 R McGrath (3) R Shorey 6 10.2 R McGrath (3) McGrath (3 0-3233 YOUNG STEVEN (16) Mrs S Brackume 7 10 5.

Russian Appect Set 12b, MSI-Dal Set 7b. BETTING: 7-2 KR Sanarita, 4-1 Over The Back, 5-1 Glenbower, 5-1 Aca-lou Rt, 7-1 Russian Aspect, 5-1 Young Steven, 15-1 Journaly, 14-1 off-

#### Wolverhampton **HYPERION**

2.10 Miracle Island 2.40 Mister Aspecto 3.10 Ziggy's Dancer 3.40 Mary Jane 4.10 Rockswain 4.40 Smart Boy

GOING: Standard. STALLS: 71, 1m81 - outside; rest - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 81 to 1m 41.

 Floresand, left-hand, ovel course.
 Course is N of town on A448. Station 1m. ADMISSION: Club ● Course is N of town on A448, Station 1m. ADMISSION: Cub.

155; Tettersale £6 (0AP members of Datmond Cub £9; Vetering Restaurant £25,00 including entrancy and meel. CAR PARK: free.

■ LEADING TRANSERS: R Hollingheed £2,510 (10-25), M Johnston 55,522 (29%), J Berry 44-304 (145%), P Heatam 38-205 (64%).

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: Deem McKeonm 28-248 (105%), F Lynch 25-252 (195%), A Clark 24-216 (111%), D Holland 23-133 (173%).

■ FAVOURITES: 360-205 (32,4%).

BLINKERED HRST TIME: Frankle Harry (240) (visored), Shire-a (410, Stanouy Times 410). At 100 Memory.

2.10 DAFFODIL MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 1f 79yds

5/444 ANDAMAN (129) D Murray Shith 4 9 12 \_\_\_\_ Dens O Well 6
25/0 DARGO (269) C Thornson 4 9 12 \_\_\_\_ Dens McChaolen 4
HLLS GAMELIE (3/22) P Bovan 59 12 \_\_\_\_\_ N Carlide 6
07/06 KARADENI (11) H Polimened 4 9 12 \_\_\_\_\_ S Clarte (7) 3
CRAFTBOOK MARCHESA J M Bradley 4 6 7 \_ S Drowne 2
3/242 WESTERN SONATA (270) Lord Huntingdon 5 5 7 

iora Sonata, 8-1 Andeman, Al's BETTING: 4-5 Miracle leland, 3-1 Wester Fella, 25-1 Dargo, Hills Gamble, 33-1 oth

2.40 TULIP CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 6f 166yds

3.10 IRIS HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 71

20200- WEETMAN'S WEIGH (113) (C) (D) R Holinshoad 5 8 12 ... 3-4042 STOPPES BROW (13) (D) G L Moore 6 83... 

3.40 FREESIA HANDICAP (CLASS D) 55,000 added 3YO 5f 4 05003- ALIMATES (159) D Normits 6 13 — Alex Grueves 1
5 22-22 PHANTOM RING (4) (BF) A Baley 6 10 — AF Phanch 6
6 15-04: MARY JANE (14) (CD) J Berry 6 10 — P Pensy (3) 4
7 064-04 DANLIDYA (18) M Polylase 7 10 — A McCarday (5) 3
7 declared - declared -

4.10 LILY SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) 52,500 added 3YO 67 

4.40 ROSE APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 1m 4f

### **Molloy ends** dispute with move to Eagles

## Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

SHEFFIELD EAGLES have once more swooped to sign a Great Britain forward, snatching Steve Molloy from Featherstone Rovers.

Molloy, in dispute with Rovers and transfer-listed at £50,000, has joined Sheffield for an undisclosed but bargain fee, according to their coach, John

"Just like Michael Jackson from Halifax, we have been after him for five or six months and he is exactly what we need." Kear said. "He is an aggressive. robust runner who will make us loads of yards and he also has a great off-loading game."

The move is a relief both for Molloy, who had vowed not to play for Featherstooe again, and for the game's administrators, who faced the possibility of its registration system coming ımder a Bosman-style legal challenge.

A measure of relief too for the amateur sides, Feetherstone Lions and Siddall, whose five-year bans from all cup competitions have been reduced oo appeal.

The two clubs had been punished for a brawl at the end of the Yorkshire Cup final, hut Barla, the ameteur game's governing body, has cut their senleoce to suspension from all its cup competitions, and from representing the amateur game in the Challeoge Cup. uotil September 1999, with a further year's ban suspended.

The televised Saturday match in the fifth round on 28 February will be between Castleford and Bradford. Castleford could be without their ceotre, Barrie-Jon Mather, who damaged shoulder muscles in last Saturday's victory.

The holders St Helens' match against Warrington will be on BBC2 the following day.

#### Confident Edwards eyes Valencia gold

#### Athletics

JONATHAN EDWARDS, who broke the UK indoor imple jump record on Sunday with a distance of 17.64 metres at the BUPA Grand Prix in Birmingham, will lead Great Britain at the European Indoor Championships in Valencia, Spain, next week. The Olympic silver medallist was named in Britain's 33-member team vesterday.

"Naturally my major ambition is to win the gold medal." Edwards said. "The way I have been performing, despite suffering the odd injury and flu these last few weeks, makes me believe I can do it. Major championships with their tension and atmosphere always fetch the best out of me." Other medal hopefuls are

Julian Golding in the 200m, Solomon Wariso in the 400m, Tony Jarrett (60m hurdles) and the triple jumper Ashia Hansen, who also set a British record -14.85m - in Birmingham. Darren Braithwaite, Dwain

Chambers and Jason Gardener will compete in the 60m. Denise Lewis has been se-

lected for the long jump, but the Olympic heptathlon bronze medallist has yet to decide if she will join the team. Janine Whitlock, who holds

the British indoor record in the pole vault (4.21m), is also heading for Spain.

ing for Spain.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM (European Indoor Champlometips, Valencia, Spi): Melton on the complement of the compl

I	THE INDEPENDENT						
	RACING 1	SERV 26	ICES				
I	LIVE COMMEN	TARIES	BESOLTS				
li	LINGFIELD	971	981				
	MUSSELBURGH	972	982				
	WOLVERHAMPTON	973	983				
	ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970						
H	Calls cost 50p per minute. Ti	Entr Courte	Co Compa				

# Luca the gaffer all grins as he takes over

Chelsea's new Italian player-manager is clearly at ease with his recent elevation at Stamford Bridge. Glenn Moore reports

IF GIANLUCA VIALLI fills Ruud Gultit's role in the dugout as successfully tonight as he took his place in the media spotlight yesterday Chelsea could be heading for Wembley.

Vialli, whose new charges must overturn Arsenal's 2-1 Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg lead at Stamford Bridge. matched Gullit's bravura display on Friday with a tour de force of his own at Chelsea's Heathrow training ground.

Despite having woken up, in only his fifth day in the job. to newspaper tales suggesting Chelsea were already lining up a replacement. Vialli was all smiles. Faced by a 10-strong media corps, featuring 11 TV crews and a large Italian presence, he showed an impressive command of the English language, cracking jokes, expounding his philosophy as a manager and a person, and skilfully evading some well-laid traps. Ruud Gullit he insisted had not been "stabbed in the back", he could look at himself "in the mirror" and he was promising change but not "revolution".

Vialli was also given glowing testimonies by Mark Hughes and Dennis Wise but elsewhere it was business as usual as Ken Bates, the chairman, added to his criticism of Gullit.

Vialli had arrived at training tu find it under seige, half-

lost 4-0 to the defence. Much preening later Vialli. and silk tie, faced the press and mates to perform. If you can do quickly revealed the highly visual

"This it is a very difficult and exciting position," he said. "I will have to be like a sponge and absorb as much as possible."

"Before I was a team-mate. a friend. Now I will have to make decisions and upset them. I want to be honest with them, open, blunt if necessary. Players want to know why and I will explain my decisions. They might not understand, they might think I'm wrong, but I want my conscience clear and I hope they will respect my decision. You need players who want to do the job for you. They have to care about you." Judging by Wise's testimony

they do. "He's a wonderful man, I like him as a person and am looking forward to helping him. He still messes about and enjoys a joke with us. We still call him Luca, when I called him Gaffer he started laughing." Wise agreed that Vialli's popularity made the decision to sack Gullit. ier to accept. "We liked Rund, we the players just have to accept it. They haven't explained it to us hut clubs never do."

nature of his grasp of English. top scorer of the club."

Vialli, not surprisingly given

the alleged breakdown in manager-player relations under Gullit, was quizzed on his new relationship with his team-mates.

ple of that, as Hughes recalled: which stunned the players, easlike Luca. It is the club's decision, Vialli added: "The players are

intelligent enough to understand it is a team game, not a not playing every week." term having co-incided with game for single minds. If they are his first public press conference. dropped I hope they keep going He then suffered his first defeat and try to make me change my as manager as a team featuring mind. I might do if I see the play-play so well that I can play the what appeared to be the first- ers work very hard in training choice attack, including himself, and have the right spirit. If you Hughes and Gianfranco Zola. are playing everything is easy, you are happy and confident. When you don't play you must in pin-stripe shirt, dark blazer be mature and help your teamthat you are even better than the

I was impressed with the dignity with which be dealt with being out of the side. I sit next to him in the dressing-room and before every game he would wisb me luck and you knew he genuinely meant it." Hughes expects to continue being in and out of a presence. I'm looking forward the side and added: "At this stage of a career you have to accept

Vialli said he did not know if be would rotate his strikers but added: "I bope the team will same team on Saturday and the left off." Vialli said, "I will not following games." This rather be making revolution, that supports the belief be will play himself, Hughes and Zola in attack which is not good news for Tore Andre Flo.

"He's been very bonest and fair," Wise said, "he's probably a little nervous at the moment. on television, as he was still un-

Vialli was the perfect exam- He's had the board out and told dertaking a personal meeting something wrong. It is the way us bow be wants us to play. He wants us to work bard and be disciplined, to train as we play. He is a perfectionist, you can see it in the way he dresses."

Hughes added: "Most of us thought he'd become a coach. He did not mention it but he has to working with him. He's passionate about the game and he played in Italy where they have a different attitude, where the emphasis is on stopping teams

"I will start from where Rudi would be stupid, we are only in February and in a good position in the Premiership, the Coca-Cola Cup and in Europe.

Vialli did not see Arsenal play Crystal Palace on Sunday, except

with every member of Chelsea's 30-strong professional staff.

He cited Juventus, with whom he won the European Champions' Cup, as his model and believed himself influenced by all his managers, Marcello Lippi, Valeri Boskov, Azeglio Vicini, Arrigo Saachi (who dropped him from the Italy side), Giovanni Trappatoni and Gullit. In England, he particularly admired Alex Ferguson, Arsene Wenger and Gordon Strachan.

centrates on this season. As for suggestions that be conspired against Gullit when meeting Laudrup on the eve of the Dutchman's dismissal, be said: "I respond to my own conscience, at the end of the day you bave to look in the mirror down against Arsenal. and you know if you have done

you behave day-to-day which shows people if you are a backstabber or not. No one stabbed Rudi in the back, not the staff or the players, this decision

has come from the board." One possible avenue closed for Gullit vesterday when Fevenoord, the club he supported and played for, extended Leo Beenhakker's contract as coach. Not that Chelsea have forgotten him. Speaking on Chelsea Clubcall Ken Bates, the The Brian Laudrup transfer chairman, said be was "disapis, he said, on hold while he con- pointed" with the club's per- one paper last season. formance this season. "With the squad we have we should be in the FA Cup instead of manchester United, maybe five and I know some funny stories points ahead of them instead of come up, this is part of the joh. bebind in the league, and I'm 1 know you can be sacked but not too bappy we're a goal

"I think towards the end be moment."

## **Beardsley** enters as Clark faces exit

By Alan Nixon

FRANK CLARK faces the sack as Manchester City's manager in the next 24 hours, with Joe Royle lined up to replace him. Clark's tenure at Maine Road may be over tomorrow whether he wins, loses or draws against Ipswich tonight. It may even come to a head before, if a settlement figure can be reached.

The City chairman. Francis Lee, is under pressure to act as he fights for his own position. with sacking Clark his only solution. Clark will not resign to help him out of the crisis.

Royle, out of work for almost a year, will be approached and asked to take charge for the rest of the season. He is likely to want the services of Willie Donachie, his former Everton assistant who is currently coach at Sheffield

Clark signed Peter Beardsley yesterday, and launched a broadside at the board. Clark was angry that he bad not been told about a club statement issued overnight which was effectively . an ultimatum.

"I didn't know it was being made and I baven't scen it or read it." Clark said. "It would have been nice if someone bad mentioned it to me."

Beardsley, out in the cold for weeks at Bolton after joining the club in August for £500,000, has moved on a month's loan and will make his debut tonight.

Wolves bave denied that they made an illegal approach last year to a schoolboy attached to another club. They were one of five clubs charged by the Football Association yesterday with trying to poach young players from other chibs.

Manchester United, Newcastle, Everton, Aston Villa and Wolves are alleged to bave breached the FA's Programme of Excellence Regulations.

Vialli suggested Gullit and "We have submitted our re-Graham Rix were back on good sponse and vicorously deny the charge of an illegal approach to terms after mutually critical a 10-year-old player, formerly at comments in the Sunday papers although his subsequent com-Shrewsbory Town, in March 1997," Wolves' managing direcment that it was the media's tor, John Richards, said. fault, in Rix's case, for allegedly

The clubs have until tomorrow to answer the charges. Everton have been charged following a complaint from Wolves in connection with four players, while Villa are charged over alleged approaches to three West Brom players and one at Charlton.

Hull have complained about Newcastle trying to sign two of their players, while Manchester United have been charged over alleged bids for a player each from Crewe and Stockport:

pan in

ead purre

'big cats

Brendon Batson, the Professional Footballers' Association deputy chief executive, said stiff sanctions should be applied if clubs continued to break the rules. "The rules are there and everybody should abide by them." be said.

Wright needs

knee surgery

ARSENE WENGER has told

Ian Wright to hold on to his

hopes of making the World Cup,

despite the torn cartilage which

means the 34-year-old Arsenal

striker will have an operation on

The Arsenal manager be-

lieves that modern advances in

By Bill Pierce

#### £30m of talent available free out of replay

CLUBS will receive details over the next month of more than 500 players available on free transfers this summer due to the Bosman ruling - which could lead to the gulf between the salaries of Premiership and Football League professionals growing wider than ever.

circulating a list of around 75 players over the age of 24 who, despite being worth a combined total of more than £30m, will be out of contract in June and available for nothing.

They include leading players such as the Aston Villa defender Steve Staunton, Leeds striker Rod Wallace, and goalkeepers Kasey Keller (Leicester) and Shaka Hislop (Newcastle).

Others are established vetersley, Tottenham's Gary Mabbutt other clubs. Last season, before League spokesman said.

player-manager Ruud Gullit. Many are set to command massive signing-on fees and wages if they move on as their new clubs will save on paying out would have been required if they had still been under contract.

At the other end of the scale, the Football League will soon The Premier League is send out its own list of an estimated 450 players whose deals at lower League chibs also run out at the end of this season.

With 140 of them at First Division clubs - compared with only slightly higher numbers at Second and Third Divisions teams - some will certainly be in demand and will earn more than they could have done before the Bosman ruling on free movement

of out-of-contract players. Yet the vast majority will be ans, such as Bolton's Peter Beard- in stiff competition for places at nancial jeopardy," a Football

and even the former Chelsea the change in rules, just over half of the 299 players at the end of their contracts were not re-

engaged by professional clubs. The lack of a transfer fee will no doubt make them more transfer fees of up to £3m which appealing to clubs, but the fear remains that most players will reap an even smaller fraction of the rewards that their Premiership counterparts receive.

> Clubs will always want to hang on to their best players on long-term deals, but those renegotiating contracts with less crucial squad members could show them the list of 450 potential replacements and argue there is no reason to pay them so much.

"Clubs can realise just how many players are available on free transfers and we hope they will not be tempted to sign a lot of players on lucrative contracts that will put themselves in fi-

# Tyke tiro ruled

CHRIS MORGAN, Barnsley's defensive bero in the draw at Old Trafford on Sunday, is out of his side's FA Cup fifth round replay against Manchester United due to his third ban of the season.

Morgan has been outstanding since breaking into the Tykes' first team a month ago and proved inspirational at the heart of the defence in the 1-1 draw at Old Trafford.

However, Morgan, who turned 20 on Friday and then made only his fifth appearance for Danny Wilson's side 48 hours later, has been collecting yellow cards in the

Morgan's suspension means he will be sidelined for Saturday's trip to Coventry in the Premiership and the return match with Alex Ferguson's side at Oakwell next Wednesday.

# **Smith welcomes Advocaat**

By Ken Gaunt and Simon Buckdand

WALTER SMITH vesterday sent his best wishes to Dick Advocaat, the man who will succeed him in the manager's chair at Ibrox on 1 July.

Smith is stepping down from the Rangers bot seat at the end of the season, although he may remain in another position.

Advocaat's decision to leave PSV Eindhoven in May was confirmed on Monday and Smith has warmed to the appointment: "He bas a lot of respect in European coaching circles," Smith said. "He has the reputation of being an extremely good organiser of players in a technical sense.

"He is coming to a great club. Maybe I am a hit biased, and why not, because I bave been a Rangers supporters all my life. "The set-up under David

Murray at Ibrox is incredible. Everything is in place and I Andy Tod for a free header and hope Dick can take us a stage further in our progress."

Celtic could thank their goalkeeper Jonathan Gould for their contunued progress in the Tennents Scottish Cup oo Monday night. In the 2-1 victory at Dunfermline Gould produced a contender for save of the season. In front of the watching Scotland manager Craig Brown, Gould's heroics mean he is now in firm contention for a B international place against his father's

Cumhernauld. Plucked from reserve team nominal fee. Gould bas established himself as first choice at Parkhead and been awarded a

FA Carling Premiership

Arsenal v Crystal Palace ... Botton v West Ham .....

2 Coventry v Barnsley ...... 4 Leicester v Chelsea ....... 6 \*Liverpool v Everton ...... 6 Manchaster Utd v Derby

Scuthernpton v Blackburn

Wimbledon v Aston Villa

team, Wales, on 24 March in

long-term deal. the half-hour. Stewart Petrie's out," Gould said.

Weekend fixtures and pools guide

cross from the right picked out the defender's powerful connection sent the ball goalwards at pace.

Photograph: Peter Jay

[Gullit] got a very aggressive

commercial manager who was

lining up all these jobs. What

with that and him getting his

Dutch coaching badge, one had

to ask where his priorities lay."

paying him for the article,

caused a few laughs, given

Vialli's £80,000-plus deal with

his own imminent demise. "Tve

played football for 17 years

I think Chelsea is not thinking

about a new manager at the

He dismissed the reports of

"It was the first thing I had to do all match," Gould said. "I just tried to make sure I got across from the near post back to cover the header and just managed to get my feet to it." The instinctive stop was vir-

tually the last moment of action for Gould with Stephane Mahé and Harald Brattbakk putting Celtic 2-0 up in the second-half. But for Gould, who kept a

clean sheet throughout Celtic's march to the Coca-Cola Cup, football at Bradford City for a there was a late blow as David Bingham scored to make it 2-1.

When we were going off at the end, Tom Boyd reminded me that was the first Cup goal His crucial save at East End we have conceded this season, Park came with the score 0-0 on which was nice of him to point

Third Division

Third Division
33 Cardiff v Cambridge Und ...
34 Chester v Rotherham....
35 Doncaster v Torquay ....
38 Everer v Colchester ...
37 Hull v Sounthorpe ...
38 Leyton Orient v Swansee
39 Uncoin City v Barnet ....

Bell's Scottish League

Premier Division

Also płaying – not on coupons; Manefeld v Danington; Notis County v Scarborough; Peterborough v Macciestield; Rochdale v Srighton; Sinewsbury v Hardepool.

keyhole surgery will soon have Wright back, and he said yesterday: "It is not a hig injury these days and Ian's age is not important. There is a small tear on an inside cartilage and really it is now considered a minor operation. He is naturally feeling a little bit down, but in three to four weeks

his left knee today.

he should be ready to play again." Wenger faces the prospect of doing without nine first-choice players for tonight's Coca-Cola Cup semi-final second leg at Stamford Bridge, most notably Dennis Bergkamp, who has an ankle injury.

Crystal Palace could be fighting for a place in the Uefa Cup this summer, even if they are relegated. Palace, 18th in the Premiership, are the only English club to have expressed a desire to compete in the InterToto Cup, winning which provides an entry into the Uefa Cup.

Derby are to lodge a protest over Jamaica's decision to keep the striker, Deon Burton, for a friendly this weekend. Burton is wanted to play against Nigeria on Saturday, which rules him out of Derby's game at Old Trafford.

The new Stoke City manager, Chris Kamara, has made Kyle Lightbourne his first signing, paying Coventry £500,000 for the 29-year-old forward.

# SNOW REPORTS

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est snow and weather reports	Resort	Comment .	Area	Lest	Lwr	Upp	Forecast
n 200+ resorts in Europe and	ANDORRA		open	SHOW	ζM	om	
reh America.	Sokieu/Tarter		95%	3.2	40	BO	Goudy/mid
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a full list of all ski codes by	Paricoroso		100%	5.2	80	140	Snow showers
e or fax dial 0990 100 843	Whater	Powdery snow on surface	100%	72	05	255	Partly doudy
i Snapshot	PACTES	Reasonable above mid-statuon	95%	23 1	20	H40	Mostly sunny
giance to snow conditions at	Folgara	Conditions deteriorating	100%	1.64	30	₩.	Spring weather
r 200 resorts world-wide 7 500 601	Hemsedal	Packed/groomed conditions	90%	16.2	70)	סל	Cloudy
	Formgal	Spring like sking ID	100%	312	40	90	Surmy and mild
association with		_Good on upper mountain	100%	1 15	60	100	Surmy
EWSTEL	Азреп	Fresh snow cover at all levels		₩2 ecoorts s	% supplie		Snow showers Ski Hotlins

# Today's fixtures

Football 7.30 unless stated COCA-COLA CUP SEMI-FINALS SECOND LEG SEMI-TRALS SELVINU LES
Cheises (I) v Arsenal (2) (7.45)
Middlesbrough (I) v Liverpool (2) (8.05)
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
Aston Vills v Menchester Utd (7.45)
Southampton v Covertry (7.45)
MATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
FIRST GIVISION
Mattheway Chiu v beweich (7.45)

FIRST LIVISION
Manchester City v Ipewich (7.45) ...
Norwich v Transpere (7.45) ...
Wolves v Bradford City (7.45) ...
TENNENT'S SCOTTSH CUP
FOURTH-ROUND REPLAY
Inverses CT v Dundee Utd (7.45)
CM VAIGHALI COMEDIENCE GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE 

enue v Droytsden.
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN
LEARUE First Division: Bedington v Dun-ston FB: Billingham Synthonia v Easinghon; Crook v Consett Durham v Jamow; Seaham
Northearten

V NOT BEBERTUT.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLANG AL-LIANCE: Stapporthal v Rustral.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division: Feithstown v Tipurge (7.45). NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premiar Division: Brigg v Selby; Sheffield UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Eastbourne Town v Burgess Hill

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Di-

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Helenic League XI v Dr. Martens League XI (et Burnham). PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Fort Willem v Eigin City; Nam County v Preser-LEAGUE OF WALES Gilbert Cup quarter-final second leg: Corwy Utd (I) v Burgor

City (2).

FAI HARP LAGER CUP Second-round replay: Fin Harps v Galway (745).

PONTRIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Blackburn Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday (73). Second Division: Bursty v Sheffield Utd (75); Rochdale v Carlsle Utd (75); Shrewsbury v Rotherterm (75); Stogont County v York (75) (et Hyde Utd). Third Division: Bury v Crester City v Doncaster Hovers (75); Newssbury Utd v Wigan Athleto (75) (at Gatesheed); Scenborough v Hull City (75); Scunthorpe v Wisbell (75).

AVON NSURANCE COMERNATION First Di-AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision: loswich v Chariton Athlete (73); Mil-wall v Swindon Town (20); Winbisdon v Portsmouth (20) (at Plough Lane).

Rugby League SELK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Fourth-round replay: Deveabury v Lancashire Lynx. Rugby Union REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Comwell v Royal Navy (70) (at St Austell); Kent v Com-bined London Old Boys (730) (at Askeens).

FIRST ONE-DAY A INTERNATIONAL: Sti Lanka A v England A (4em stari) (et Moralu-Basketball BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchesser Glants v Derby Storm (730); Greater London Leop-ards v Newcastle Eagles (730).

\*Postponed: Liverpool v Everton (playing Mondey: Pools panel will adjudicate). Play-ing Sunday: Newcastle v Leeds. Nationwide Football League First Division Bradford City v Oxford Utd 1 Huddersfield v Wolves. 14 QPR v Port Vale

15 Reading v Portsmouth... 16 Stockport v Charlton.... 17 Stoke v Nottinghem Forest 19 Tranmere v Crewe nwich v Bury . Playing Sunday: Simingham v Shelfield Utd. Second Division 21 Bristol Rovers v Oldham 22 Burnley v Brentford ...

23 Chesterfield v Wrechem 24 Fulham v Wigan...... 25 Glängham v Carlisle ..... 26 Grinsby v Bournemouth 27 Luton v Bristol City .... 28 Milwall v Northampton 29 Preston v Wycombe ... 30 Southend v Blackpool

42 Hibernian v Rangers ... 43 Motherwell v Hearts ... 44 St Johnstone v Aberde First Division 45 Ayr v Stirting.... 46 Dundee v Airdrie 47 Morton v Paith 48 Hamiton v St Mirren 49 Partick v Palkirk Four draws: Bolton v West Hant; Ipewich v Norwich; Bristol Rovers v Otcham; Dunterm-line v Dundee Utd. Pive awaye: Wolves, Nottingham Forest, Northampton, Watford, Rangers.

Ten homes: Arsenal, Manchester Utd, Reading West Bromwich, Fulham, Glängham, Exster, Walsell, Cettic, Dundee.

الكذا عن ألاصل

# Deano moves in as Tigers sack Dwyer

Rugby Union

By David Llewellyn

I EICESTER last night replaced a legend with an icon, sicking Bob Dwyer as director of rugby and installing the Welford Road favourite Dean Richards as first-team manager "in the interim," according to the former England No 8.

Dwyer's departure is not such a surprise, despite his insisting vesterday: "In my opinion it has not been an unsuccessful time for Leicester. I am disappointed to be leaving after a happy and I believe, successful stay."

However, the forthright the two in training. At the time when, horrowing from foot-moved out to the wing from years, from 1987 to 1995, as sition to win an extraordinary straining had become in the two in training. At the time when, horrowing from foot-moved out to the wing from years, from 1987 to 1995, as sition to win an extraordinary Australian had hecome increasingly unhappy as a season of promise turned sour. Leices- Healey claimed he was 100 per ter lost to Pau in the quarterfinal of the European Cup. to Gloucester a fortnight ago.

Rumours of player unrest were further firelled when Dwyer dropped the England wing. Austin Healey, on in the bench a couple of days later when the for the Premiership match against London Irish. This fol-

Dwyer said Healey had a calf strain and was not fully fit.

After the Gloucester match Saracens in the Tetley's Bitter Dwyer sounded on the brink of Cup and their pretension in success in the league have suffered completely disillusioned, I can't a number of hlows, culminating think of anything to say. It's in a Premiership defeat at quite clear we are not good enough. I figure if a coach is not producing the goods he should look elsewhere."

The clincher probably came Leicester chief executive, Peter Wheeler, showed how fully prodreaded vote of confidence.

The Tigers hooker Richard 57-yeur-old's dismissal. "His departure has nothing to do with the players," Cockerill a board decision, I am disappointed and surprised. Bob was good for Leicester io a number of ways and I am not aware of much criticism heing aimed in his direction. He is a very, very

good coach."

hall-speak, he gave Dwyer the serum-half by Dwyer, was magnanimous enough to offer: "He has revived my England career Cockerill was quick to deny that because I am playing on the wing day." And Healey played down the dispute and the role it might have played in Dwyer leaving,

> Dwyer, an electrical engineer by profession, has an incompa-

the end of his time at the helm they had won 46 of their 73 matches in his charge. Defeat against England in the quarterfinal of the 1995 World Cup, followed by a 2-0 Bledisloe Cup setback against New Zealand a

treble of European Cup, League Championship and Pilkington Cup. They reached the Heineken Cup final only to lose to Brive, fell apart in the League and finally scraped to

beating Sale in a lacklustre final.



Dwyer: Disappointed

The talismanic Richards, holder of 48 England caps, said: "I will be doing some hands-on coaching," but he then intimated that a full-time coaching appointment would be made. "It is a huge challenge for me over the next few months. It is not going to be easy."

# lowed reports of a row between fessional the game has become Woodward gambles on front-row rookie

By Chris Hewett Rughy Union Correspondent

CLIVE WOODWARD has risked any number of shots in the dark since taking over the England coaching joh last September, none of which would have kept William Tell awake at night. But he was back on target practice duty again vesterday as he fired Phil Vickery, a tight-head prop whose physical dimensions are matched only by his chronic inexperience, into a nowder-puff red rose front row for this weekend's seriously important Five Nations tussle with Wales at Twickenham.

Given that England's last setpiece experiment - the double gamble with Andy Long and Will Green against Australia last November - blew up so calamitously in Woodward's face that he resembled a mad professor in an Ealing comedy, this new hrainwave is a bold call indeed. Vickery may weigh in at 19 stones and he may be in the process of learning his trade at Gloucester, the most respected is the time to do it," said Woodfront-row academy of them all. ward. "I'm not blaming the However, he is also a baby-faced Paris defeat on Garforth or 21-year-old whose record of achievement against world-class scrummagers is not so much slight as non-existent.

go out there against Wales and

raised farm boy, who replaces of life's little mysteries. Darren Garforth at the coalface on Saturday. "That means playing with heart and passion and it means making the stability of the scrummage my top priority. Am I surprised to be capped

so quickly? Yes. But I'm even

more delighted." Woodward has made a second change to the front row mangled and ultimately murdered by Christian Califano and his French colleagues in Paris in the opening round of Five Nations matches. Richard Cockerill, the Leicester hookcr who worked his way so effectively under All Black skins before Christmas, returns for Mark Regan, whose immediate future as an international forward now looks hleaker than a

wet Wednesday in Widnes, "It was always in the back of my mind to give Phil a game this season and after discussions with our specialist forward coaches, I've decided that this Regan or anyone else in isola-

The way I see it. I've got to find no room in his meritocra-

week-out for Gloucester," said most dynamic rugby of his the Devon-born, Cornwall- career at Bath, must remain one

> ous about the verbat assault dished out yesterday by John Mitchell, however. The quietlyspoken hut darkly threatening New Zealander was brought in by Woodward to maximise the performance of the English pack along All Black lines and just at the moment, he feels hetrayed. "We've just had the higgest heart-to-heart since I've been involved and the players are in no doubt what I expect from them against the Welsh," he snarled,

Paris, no question. There are certain specific reasons why the scrummaging weot so badly and while I'm not prepared to identify those factors, I will say this. We copped out against the French. We were too soft. We weren't aggressive enough. That's the message I'm bringing to this pack and I'm bringing it because if you're going to achieve anything in any area of a rugby pitch, you have to dominate up front."

tion, but the selections are Mitchell during his ferocious bers on to his soapbox and his every other member of "Club based on merit, as always." Quite why Woodward can to mention his unbeaten run as damental to England's chances amount to nothing more than a cy for the rejuvenated Victor Black midweek dirt-trackers, needed first victory in six Test of a very modest pack. do exactly what I do week-in. Ubogu, currently playing the tends to be much interested in outings. It is, however, worrying

There was nothing mysteri-

We let ourselves down in

player power had a part in the against the Welsh on Saturinsisted after breaking off from adding: "I don't think a profes-England's training session, "It's sional board like Leicester's would take into account a slight disagreement on the playing field. I respected him as a coach, Bob improved the skill levels of everyone at the cluh."

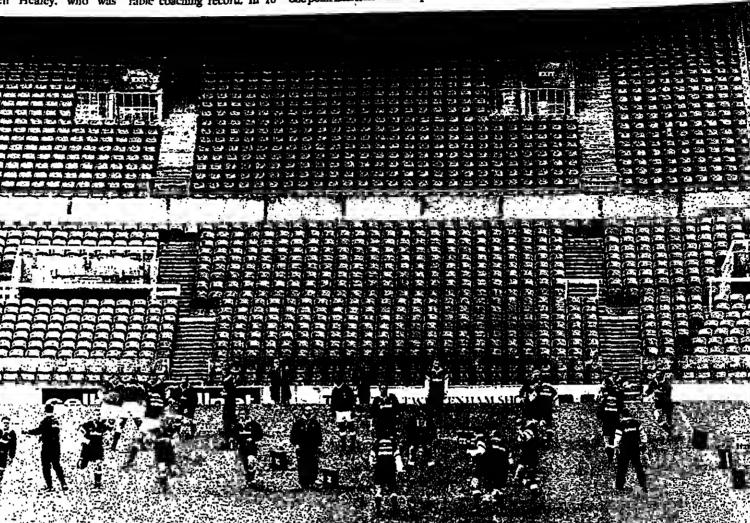
Even Healey, who was rable coaching record. In 10

Australia coach he guided them to the 1991 World Cup and by couple of months later, scaled his fate. He then had a spell with the fashionahle Racing Club de

Paris, who were unfortunately relegated at the end of that season. In July 1996 he took up the reins at Welford Road and at one point Leicester were in a posuccess in the Pilkington Cup,

One of Dwyer's most notable successes was the signing of South African stand-off Joel Stransky and since Leicester have also parted company with Dwyer's assistant, Duncan Hall, a Queenslander, there is every chance that the talented Springbok will have the chance to

realise his amhition to coach.



Stand and deliver: England are dwarfed by Twickenham as they prepare for Saturday's Five Nations contest with Wales

No one who ran into arguing the toss when he clam- for Woodward, Mitchell and sense outside the scrum; Matt tenure as captain of Waikaro, not influence this week will be fun- England" that the changes of Mike Catt's frailties than any the skipper of the 1993 All of earning Woodward a must- cash-strapped gamhler's shuffle

Perry, dropped more as a result of his own, displaces his Bath club-mate at full-back to win his fifth cap. "I still think Mike was At least England have seen the right selection for Paris, but

Perry now appears the more at home in the position," said Woodward. It was an intrigning comment, for Perry has not appeared at full-back since mid-January. To be sure, coaches play by different rules to the rest of us.

# Japan in raptures as Harada sheds his burden

#### Winter Olympics

Mike Rowbottom reports from Nagano

A NATION rejoiced here yeslerday as Japan's ski jumpers secured the team gold medal which had so traumatically eluded them four years earlier. But most of all, it rejoiced for the man whose last-jump failure at he 1994 Games had cost his

country dear, Masahiko Harada. After the title had been secured by Japan's last jumper,

and 120m hill competitions, Harada and his two younger team-mates ran over to their colleague like madmen before diving down into the snow alongside him to celebrate.

A few moments later, as the realisation of what had occurred face contorted into tears and his shoulders sagged, the burden of four years slipping from them.

day reflected his career polarised between triumph and disaster. In the first of his two Kazuyoshi Funaki, who already jumps, the 29-year-old world champion reduced the Rising

into the Hakuba venue to silence as he dropped down at 79.50m. The sixth worst of the 104 jumps taken in the 13 competition.

sank in, Harada's expressive petition. Leading the first-jump Harada's performance on the He failed, and finished fifth.

Four days after that, he had champion reduced the Rising ing to take the individual bronze would happen again after

tively from the individual 90m Sun-waving multitude crammed with the higgest leap of the day. my first jump," he said. After the first round of jumps yesterday, Japan were down in fourth place and Harada was faced with carrying a lifelong reputation as a

Six days earlier, Harada had produced a similar effect on the home crowd with the last jump of the individual 90m hill comstandings, he had needed only to reach within four metres of his first effort to secure the gold.

shown the same bewildering inconsistency on the 120m hill, performing badly hut recoverchoker. But outstanding efforts

leap, recovered the position. What could Harada do for his Olympic finale? He admitted afterwards that memories of Lillehammer four years earlier came to mind. "To be honest, I was very concerned that the same thing

from the two other jumpers,

Hiroya Saito and Takanobu

Okahe, who produced a 137m

Adjusting his goggles at the top of the ramp, he slid down to his destiny - and soared out to 137m, the joint furthest jump of the day, Pandemonium, And when Funaki held the whole thing together with a jump of 125m, Japan's day of triumph was complete.

The scenes in the aftermath of victory will be remembered here as English people cherish the memory of the 1966 World Cup jubilation. Later, an ecstatic crowd of 15,000 spectators packed into Nagano's Central Square to see the quartet presented with their medals.

#### No luck for Gooch as illness takes its toll

Gooch's least favourite places, writes Mike Rowbottom.

Last year Britain's bronze medallist from the 1994 Games had a disastrous world championships here, and last night his hopes of success in the 1,000 metres short track speed skating event disappeared in just

over a minute and and a half. The 25-year-old from Barnes had his preparations for these Games disrupted by a chest infection, which caused him to lose a week's training after arriving here on 2 February. He finished third and last in his heat behind Canada's François Drolet, and

Karin Kschwendt, of Austria, while Ahl

Nagano's White Ring arena is South Korea's world champion, home last by nearly 20 metres, turning into one of Nicky Kim Dong-Sung, who went on smiled sheepishly as he crossed to take the gold medal.

"I had a tough draw in my heat," Gooch said. "When I tried to change pace I just didn't have it in my legs." He will, however, race to-

morrow in the heats of the 5,000m relay. Matt Jasper finished eighth

a collision on the final bend between the second and third Jasper, who was coasting

6-4 5-5.

WTA TOURNAMENT (Hamover) Singles first round: A Class (Ger) bt 3 Paulus (Auf) 2-6-6-3 6-0; L Reymond (US) bt A Fusal (Fr) 7-6-6-2; S Appelment (Bill) bt 1 Spirice (Flori) 4-1-ret.

WTA TOURNAMENT (Bogota) First round: C Tomers Valero (Bill) bt 1 L Horn (SA) 6-2-6-1; P Stojenova (Bill) bt 5 Joyseosian (Can) 6-4-6-1; J Hassirova (Stojetk) bt 5 Krivenching (Dul) 8-2-6-2.

WTA CHALLENGER TOURNAMENT (Red-

(Bul) 6-2 6-2.
WYA CHALLENGER TOURINAMENT (Red-bridge, Essan) Singles first round: J Pulin (Sussed) bt T Garbin (1) 8-4 7-6: L Ah (De-von) bt E Cunutchet (F) 6-7 6-3 7-5; L La-threr (Warwicks) bt K Kachwendt (Aur) 2-6 7-5 7-6; L Woodforfie (Sursey) bt A Serra-Zenetti (1) 7-6 7-5; K Hrillichove (12 Rep) bt A Porto (F) 8-3 6-6; N Feber (Sel) bt C Paris (Sp) 8-3 6-6; T Krizen (Sloven) bt A Or-lura (Sp) 7-5 8-7 8-3; P Wartusch (Aur) bt R Sandu (Rom) 6-3 6-1.

the line. But he produced a spirited performance in the five-man semi-final, missing qualification by one place as he finished third.

Jasper was also affected by a chest infection before the Games began, missing two days' training, 500m individual event and the but he will be back in the 500m. Katja Seizinger, who on Monday became the first person to reoverall yesterday, after being tain an Olympic downhill title. assisted to a semi-final place by won her second gold of the Games in the women's comhined. She held off Martina Ertl placed Jun-Hwan Lee of South and Hilde Gerg in the slalom el-Korea and Marc Gagnon, Cana- ement as Germany completed da's three-times world champion. the first ctean sweep in a women's alpine event since 1964.

#### Sporting Digest

## Frostad purrs over big cats

Sailing

Knut Frostad had two reasons to be happy yesterday. As he lined Innovation Kvaerner up with Swedish Match, Toshiba and Merit Cup for the 2,000mile struggle for second place on the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race, the Norwegian skipper was wen looking to an even greater ature in the future. writes

tuart Alexander in Auckland. Frostad, now striking a more easterly route, has the immediate problem of negotiating the lottery of light and fickle winds on the run up the east coast of South America to São Sebastião. The four yachts disputing second place are in sight of each other and expecting positions to change

 But he is finding time to discuss plans to hulld three giant 120ft to 130ft catamarans, in parmership with two other syndicates, for "The Race", the nonstop round the world race scheduled to start on 31

A STREET ONE

December 2000. WRITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE TIME IS, 8.579 miles, Aucidente, NZ, to Sao Time Is, 8.579 miles, Aucidente, NZ, to Sao Time Is, 8.579 miles, Aucidente, NZ, to Sao Time Is and Is a Language (Swe) P Cayed 1985 miles to frint; 2 Sweden Master (Swe) P Cayed 1985 miles to frint; 3 Tooribe (US) P Standards 357: 4 Merit Cup (Mon) G Deston 350; 8 mnostion Koasmer (Nor) K Footing 350; 8 mnostion Koasmer (Nor) K Footing IS Managery (North Riverse 602; 7 Cressio Ruchg IIS) DSmith 644; 8 Siz Cut (GB) L Smith 350; 9 EF Education (Swe) C Guillou 1937.

#### Badminton

Badminton
THOMAS CUP MEN'S WORLD TEAM
CHAMPIONSHIP European qualitying
tournament (Sandeliterd, Nor): Portugal 5
laty 0; Zumbis 4 Georgia 1; losterd 3 France
2; Stoveras 5 Latvis 0; Potand 4 South Africa
1; Armena 5 Azerbaijan 0; Norway 5 trakind
1; Estonia 3 Brazi 2; Netherlands 4 Portugal
1; Ulcrume 5 lostend 0; Bulgaria 3 United Sistes 2; Sweden 4 Potand 1, Assan
qualitying tournament (Benillo): Singapore
5 tran 0; Australia 3 Philippines 2; Thisiand
4 New Zeeland 1; Myammar 4 Pakistan 1;
Canada 4 Sri Lanka 1.
UIBER CUP WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM

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Canada 4 Sri Lanka 1
UBER CUP WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM
CHAMPIONSHIP European qualifying
teamment (Sandelford, Nor): Norway 3
Czech Republic 2; Belarus 5 Belgium 0;
Umaine 5 Austria 0; Frisland 5 Latvia 0;
Switzerland 5 Georgia 0; Peru 5 Armania 0;
Spain S Azerbajan 0; Irvaland 5 Portugal 0;
Kazeidistan 3 Slovenia 2; United States 3
Italy 2; Netherlands 5 Likrane 0; Russas 8
Switzerland 0; Bugant 3 Norway 2; Denmark
5 France 0, Asian qualifying tournament
[Manilla; Australa 3 Philippines 2; Singapore
S Meuritus 0; Metaysia 4 Incla 1; India 5 Mautitus 0; Myaramar 5 Macaio 0.

Basketball NBA: Criando 85 Atlanta 81; New Jersey 103 Milwaukse 92; Houston 121 Los Angeles Cip-pera 98; Utah 25 Charlotte 90.

British boxers will be deducted penal-ty points for infringements in the ring-from 1 March. The Boxing Board of Control is moving into line with world and European governing bodies by in-troducing a rule to purish oftending fighters. Referees will have to indicate to the boxer the number of points de-ducted by raishno a finner or finners to the boxer the number of points de-ducted by raising a finger or fingers and, at the same time, call out the res-son for the penalty. The change in reg-ulations will need to be confirmed at the board's Amual General Meeting in London on 20 May.

The fourth day's play in the first Test between South Africa and Pakistan was abandoned after a lunchtime pitch inspection by the umpires at the sodden Wanderers ground in Johannesburg yesterday. The rain seems certain to ensure the metch will end in a draw, with South Africa who lad by 35 runs. with South Airlea, who led by 35 runs on the first innings, yet to start their second innings. PREST TEST (Johannesburg): No play yes-tarday (fourth day; rain), South Airica 364; Palistian 329.

#### Football

Procedular

The Rochdele goalkeeper Steve Byweter, 16, has signed for West Ham on loan until the end of the season with a view to a permanent transfer. The England Under-16 International played a trial game for the Hammer's reserves three weeks ago and impressed manager Harry Redkrapp despite being sent off.

The UniBond League Premier Division

ager Herry recoverably designed being sent off.

The UniBond League Premier Division olds Guiseley have appointed their top scorer, the former Leeds United striker Bobby Davison, as their new player-manager. He replaces Steve Richards, who resigned on Monday. NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE Floture changes: Fri 27 Febt: Colonester v Peterborough from 28 Febt. San 1 Mar: Port Visit v Stoke (from 28 Febt.). San 1 Mar: Port Visit v Stoke (from 28 Febt.). Wed 25 Febt: Postsponed: Ablon Rovers v Berwick.

AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP (Burdinis Feac) Group D: Zambia 3 (Kambe 15, K Bwelya 43, Tembo 73) Mozambique 1 (Avelino 57).

Morocco 1 (El Hadi 90) Egypt 0 (Morocco and Egypt quality for quarter-finals).

MONDAY'S LATE RESBUTS: Tennents

43, Tembo 73, Michael Toller, 1 (New 197).
Morocco 1 (E) Hedit 90) Egypt 0 (Morocco and Egypt quality for quarter-finals).
MONDAY'S LATE RESILUTS: Tennents Scottish Cup fourth round: Dunfarmine 1 (Bingham 8) Ceitic 2 (Mehé 50, Bratitalót 67) (Ceitic eury le Duntae Und or Inverness Caledonian Thésia), UniBond Laegue Premier Division: Hold 1 Quissey 1, Arnott Insurance Northern Leegue First Division: RTM Newcastis 1 Perritti 1 Pontian Laegue First Division: Leicester 5 Port Vale 0, Second Division: Chelsea 2 West Ham 1; Lution 1 Arsental 1; Southarnot 2 Registron 2 Trighton 2 Than Thase FA Youth Cup fearth round: Queen's Park Rengers 3 Blackfour Rovers 5. French League Cup quarter-final: Paris 5-German 1 Metz 0, African Nations Cup (Buridon Paul) Group B: Togo 1 (Assignon pen 4) Turies 3 (Tennenaril 9, Simaine 2, Gabs) 80; Democratic Republic of Congo quality for quarter-finals 1, Group C: Norry Coest 5 (Quel 6, 23, Tehn 43, pen 81 Balasylos 56) Angola 2, Silva 27, Cuptarin 52); South Africa 9 (McCarthy 8, 1, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 1, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 19, 21) Namibia 1 (Vutaria 6, (McCarthy 8, 11, 11, 11, 11)

The Australesian PGA is to discuss a joint venture deal with South African officials to lessen scheduling clashes and allow players to compete in events on both tours. US PGA TOUR Leading money winners (US unless stated): 1 J Parrevis (Swe) \$454623; 2 J Huston \$444983; 3 F Couples

\$422874; 4 & Simpson \$363,963; 5 & Kendall \$361,550; 6 T Weison \$365,400: 7 P Mickel son \$316,528; 8 T Woods \$258,800; 9 a Gelberger \$249,228; 10 & Lietzie \$248,400 Hockey

Hightown, the Cup holders, the run-ners-up Ciffion and the country's out-standing club at present, Slough, have been drawn apart in the quar-ter-final draw for the EHA Cup, which was made yesterday. EHA CUP Quarter-final draw: Doncester v Sough; Cifron Scottish Lite v Trojans; High-nom v Sutton Colffeld; Loughtborough Students v Aldridge. (Ties to be played Sun-day 5 April).

Rugby League The former Oldham Bears forward, Gary Lord, has joined Wakefied Trinity on a one-year contract.

The BBC will talevise the Silk Cut Challenge Cup fifth-round the between Castelord and Bradford Bulls on Seturday 28 February (Sprn) and, on the following day, St Helens v Warrington (145pm).

A retired schoolmaster John Commell

(145pm).

A ratired schoolmaster John Cornwell,
58, a former deputy leader of South
Yorkshire Council, has been appointed as the inaugural chairman of the
Youth Commission, the body set up
to establish a common policy for the
development of junior rugby league in
Britain and Ireland.

Rugby Union

Rugby Union
Bristol have won their appeal against having to play two games within 48 hours this weekend. They had been scheduled to play an Alled Durber Premierable game at London Irish on Friday and a Cheltenham & Gloucester Cup quarier-final at Bedford on Sunday. The English Rugby Partnership Board has, however, ruled that the Premierable game must take priority and has asked Bedford to offer Bristol an alternative date for the Cup tie. alternative date for the Cuo tie. The England A winger Steve Hackney has signed a part-time contract at the Allied Dunber Premiership Two club,

Both the GB I and GB II teams were heading for quarter finel places in the Gosting's Pum ISAF World Team Racing Chempionships in Mismi after being undefeated 7-0 in the round robin.

Snooker Shooker

REGAL SCOTTISH OPEN (Aberdeen) Second round: J White (Eng) bt G Dot (Sco) 5-4; E Henderson (Sco) bt C Small (Sco) 5-5; C Sceniton (Eng) bt J Swale (N Nt) 5-4; K Doherty (N) bt S Storey (Eng) 5-1; G Wildneth (Eng) bt J Burnett (Sco) 5-1; B Morpen (Eng) bt D Gasy (Eng) 5-1; P Hunter (Eng) bt M Price (Eng) 5-1; R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt M Price (Eng) 5-4; T O'Sullivan (Eng) bt N Footbe (Eng) 5-4; T O'Sullivan (Eng) bt N Footbe (Eng) 5-4; P Ebdon (Eng) bt P Wyles (Eng) 5-0; F O'Brien (N) bt J Perry (Eng) 5-3; M Bernnett (Wal) bt II Dale (Wel) 5-2.

Tennis Louise Latimer, the 20-year-old War-wickshire player, and Lucie Ahl, of Ex-eter, both best seeded players to reach the second round of the WTA Chal-legger at Barthriton Excess yesterries.

Women's combined statom: 1 M Erti (Ger) Irvin 1136ec; 2 H Gerg (Ges) 1:1158; 3 M Gelfool (ft) 1:1182; 4 6 Schuster (Aut) 1:1215; 5 K Sebbyger (Ger) 1:1222; 2 M Bergmann (Ger) 1:1246; 7 A Shaffer (US) 1:27; 3 F Mannatis (Ff) 1:1257; 9 J (Kostel-le (Croa) 1:1352; 10 C Leilve (US) 1:1371

120th Wenn overs (K Funski, M Hersde, T Okobe, H Saho) 2 Germany 897.4 (S Hannawaid, H Jälde, M Schmitt, D

um notwerth, S Homgacher, R Schwarzer, berger, A Widholds) 4 Norwey 8706; 5 Finland 8339; 5 Switzer-land 7330; 7 Coach Recubra Potend 8845 - P

land 7350; 7 Czech Republic 7103; 8 Poland 8842; 8 Ruesie 839.7; 18 Slovenia 8103.

Woman's final: USA 3 Canada 1. Bronza medal match: Finland 4 China 1.

Men's 10,000m 1 Gland Romas (Neth) 13min 15.33eec ...

(world record)
2 Bob de Jong (Neth) 13:25.76
3 Rintje Ritsma (Neth) 13:28.19

SKI JUMPING

Thoma) 3 Austria 881.5

ICE HOCKEY

SPEED SKATING

Karin Kachwendt, of Austria, while Ahlbeat the eighth seed, Emmanuelle Cuntichet of France.

ST JUDE'S ATP TOURNAMENT (Memphis) First round: V Spades (US) by A O'Eten (US) 6-3 6-4; R Renebesg (US) by J Ondris (Brd) 8-4 8-2; M Washington (US) by Sagsian (Am) 7-6 6-4; R Delgado (Par) by D Sagsian (Am) 7-6 6-4; B Delgado (Par) by D Sagsian (US) by C Vinck (Gar) 2-6 7-5 6-4; G Weiner (US) by C Vinck (Gar) 2-6 7-5 6-4; G Weiner (US) by E Ran (Gar) 4-6 7-6 6-4; S Campbel (US) by G Doyle (Aus) 6-4 6-0.

bt G Doyle (Aus) 6-4 6-0.
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ATP TOURNA-MENT (Antwerp) First resend: M Dernin (Cz Rep) bt F Dewalf (Bel) 4-6 7-6 6-4; J Sements (Neth) bt G Neniesvic (Croe) 6-4 6-3; A Por-ces (Sp) bt D Hrbsty (Slovist) 6-7 7-6 6-4; 2 Ulmach (Cz Rep) bt F Santoro (Fr) 6-2 6-4; T Johansson (Swe) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-1 6-2. 8-2. ATP CHALLENGER TOURNAMENT (Libback, Gar) First round (selected): A Richardson (GB) bt J Sutter (US) 6-3 6-7 6-4; I lenger at Recibridge, Essex, yesterday. Latimer defeated the seventh seed.

Winter Olympics results and timetable

4 a Veldeamp (Bel) %:2869; s K Storelid (Nor) 18:35:95; 6 F Dittrich (Ger) 18:36:56; 7 L Saeire (Nor) 3:2994; a K C Brusiette (US) 18:440:8 9 R Signel (IO 18:4685; 10 A Baumpärtel (Ger) 18:4844
Men's 1,000es final!
I Kim Dong-sung (S Kor) 1min 32:375:ecc 2 U Jitajum (Ch) 1:32:498
3 Fine Beaterd (Can) 1:32:593
4 A Gabel (US) 1:33:518
a final: 1 N Temure (Jupen) 1:32:527; 2 F Carta (t) 1:33:018; 3 Lee Jun-hwan (S Kor) 1:33:51; 4 M Jasper (GS) 1:34:296.
Women's 3,000m reby final
1 South Korva 4:18:250
(Chun Leekyung, Won Hys-kyung, An Sang-mi, Kim Yun-mi)
2 China 4:18:383

2 Cfilms 4:16383 (Yarro Yang A Yang Yang S, Weng Chuntu, Sun Dendan) 3 Cenade 4:21205 (Christine Bouchies, Isebelle Charest, Annie Perreault, Tania Vicent) 4 Jepan 4:30692 8 filmst: 1 United States 4:26,253; 2 Nether-lands 4:26582; 3 North Kores 4:27030; 4 Germany 4:3770

MEDALS TABLE

TIMETARI F

Today (times GMT)
Alpha siding: Ment giant sinforn first leg
0030, second leg 0430. Cross-country skiling: Men's 4x10km relay Freestyle skiling: Men's and women's aeri als final 01:5. one Men's 10km aprint 04.00, Figure electing: Women's short programm 1000. Instrusion Television BBC2: 0745-0845, 1230-1440, 1900-2030. Eurosport: 24tr coverage.

Alpine skiing: Women's sisiom, tirst leg 0030, second leg 0400. Nordic combined: 90m ski jumping team event 00.30. Speed studing: Women's 1,000m, 06.00; Women's 500m qualifying and final, Men's 500m qualifying the property of the property of 1000.

Blathfor: Women's 4x7.5km relay 04.00.

99C207A5-08A5, 1230-14A0, 1900-2000, Eu-

# The years since the Stars

TODAY'S

NUMBER

and Stripes was flown ceremonially in Iran. It flew again yesterday at the opening ceremony of an international wrestling tournament, where it was applauded enthusiastically.



Henry Blofeld's West Indies Update

For the latest news. views and regular updates call Henry Blofeld's cricket line on:

0930 563 597

Third Test: England beat Port of Spain jinx and the tension to square the series and wrest the psychological advantage from their hosts

# Butcher holds his nerve to seal victory

Derek Pringle reports from Fort of Span

West Indies 159 & 210 England 145 & 225-7 England won by three wickets

IT HAS taken 23 years and several near misses to do so, but England have finally managed to beat the West Indies in Port of Spain. Yet if the manner, chasing the highest score in this agonisingly tense match, was scrappy, the result was crucial, and England now go to Guyana with the series level knowing that their opponents are vuinerable.

Considering this match has twisted and turned more often than an alleycat on a hot tin roof. the end was anti-climactic. With Mark Butcher, unbeaten on 24 out at the crease, it was Curtly Ambrose who levelled the scores with a no-ball in the second over after lunch, before David Williams conceded the bye that finally brought England victory.

In truth, with both sides well matched and each having severgames, it is conceivable that either could easily have left Trinidad two up as two down. With Brian Lara acknowledging as much, the West Indies captain felt the series would go to the side that could most "improve its batting,"

For England and their capfifth win from 23 Tests abroad. the importance of the result cannot be overstated. After losing the previous Test here, which ing already made his telling conhis side were expected to win, tribution and Fraser not needed, morale would have been tested only Russell had the power to exto the hilt. To win this one, needing the highest score of the taunted England here at this match, spoke of a determination ground. However, as one of not often associated with England teams. As William Shakespeare wrote in "As You Like It": home himself. it was the "retort absolute."

lieved England captain thought on Monday night they would it was probably the most tense have felt certain of victory. And match he had ever been in- yet the faltering manner of their volved in: "The importance of win sull illustrated how alien win-

"We entered this game with no thoughts about the last match, and I can't speak more highly of this team in the way that they have played here. It was a fantastic effort to win this match."

Lara was praiseworthy of England's performance. "The 225 runs they needed was definitely defendable, especially on a Trinidadian pitch. But we came up against a team that wanted to win badly, and I'd like to congratulate the England batters for a job well done.

Like the other Test here a week ago, the highest score in the match was made in the last innings. But while both captains felt the pitches were different in character - this one was slower and more even in bounce - both seemed to defy the ageing process and Dean Headley, seven not and become less and not more grumpy as the game wore on.

But if the batsman prospered from that quirk, it was not evident yesterday as England scurried and scrambled the 38 runs - the only boundary came from leg-byes - needed to finally smash the iinx this ground apal opportunities to win both pears to have had over them in

With play delayed by 40 minutes, due to rain, memories of the match here in 1990, when England were thwarted on the last day by a combination of rain and a cynically slow over rate, would have come flooding back to the tain, Michael Atherton, with his likes of Angus Fraser, Alec Stewart and Jack Russell, who all played in that match.

This time, with Stewart havorcise the demons that have three wickets to fall yesterday, he did not manage to drive the stake

Privately, there is little doubt Speaking afterwards, a re- that when England went to bed



Courtney Walsh (centre) can only watch Dean Headley (left) and Mark Butcher steal another run as England edge towards victory

of this series, as well as their immediate future.

England's victory crawl was due to the stupendous efforts of this game was massive for us. If ning is to this side and they have Walsh and Ambrose, who overs old, life was made un- Thorpe dug in and, finding a cool there was a discernible gap when we'd left here 2-0 down, in would not yet acquired clinical Aus. bowled unchanged as they tried comfortable for England's bats- and competent ally in Butcher, Russell, fencing at a wide one have been difficult for us to tralian ways. Nevertheless the na- once more to defy the improb- men and it could have been a very his Surrey team-mate, the pair edged to Carl Hooper at second ture of the tense win will mean able. They did not bowl a bad ball different result had Ambrose's saw England to within 24 runs of slip. Suddenly, the West Indies

a lot for those involved in the rest all morning and it was significant first ball of the day, a beauty that their target before Ambrose got that the only half volley Walsh bowled came after lunch when England were almost there.

With the new ball only three

climbed and left Graham Thorpe to edge one outside off-Thorpe, found the edge instead. stump to the keeper.

Bowled by Ambrose in the

But if that wicket produced catastrophe here four years ago, only a slight chink in the contains,

scented fresh possibilities and, when Andy Caddick was dismissed next ball by the hest delivery of the morning, daylight was pouring in.

But while the action on the watching - Phil Tufnell apparently got through three packets of cigarettes waiting his turn to bat - Butcher maintained an im-

pressively calm presence. With an equally important contribution in the first innings, he looks a better player than the one who started last summer against Australia and, although he was a late replacement here tain to play in Guyana.

# SCOREBOARD Josephae: Il B Her and E Nich IV Replay Umpire: C E Cumb Match Referee: B N Jarmen

#### Gough unlikely to join tourists

DARREN GOUGH has virtually ruled out joining England in the West Indies despite being given the all-clear yesterday to resume training following his knee operation last month.

Instead the Yorkshire pace bowler, who missed the last months of last year's County season with the injury, has his sights set on his county's preseason tour of South Africa next

"It doesn't look as though I am going to rush back and that probably means I won't play any West Indies," he said. "I will have two or three weeks' steady. huild-up before going to Lilleshall for a week with the aim of

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making the tour of South Africa. "Deep down I always felt the Yorkshire tour would be the one. I ended up on and unless I get stronger much more quickly than expected that will be the case. But you never know and for Adam Hollioake, he is cer- I will leave it up to the selectors to decide."

The E.A.Carey 'Magic Inch' pipe

TRY IT BEFORE

# Fast bowlers' bold endeavours are compromised at the crease

jangling Tests, the series is even unassailable lead and that they in every sense.

The psychological advantage the West Indies gained with second Test has now been cancelled by England's similar triafterwards were completely opposite to what they were eight Now England's reflected joy

they had failed to secure what

After two closely fought, nerve- would have been a virtually will have to deal with rejuvenated opponents from here on.

This was a critical result for their unlikely victory in the England. Had they not managed it, it would have been not only an almost certain end to umph in the third. The facial their hopes but a crushing blow expressions at the presentation to morale. Len Hutton's powerful side of 1954 recovered from defeat in the first two Tests to share the spoils in the end but not many others have achieved and relief. Brian Lara and his such a feat in the long history

WEST INDIES VIEW

en, once more, hecause of the failure of their batting and in spite of the heroic efforts of their two great, if ageing, fast bowlers, Curtly Amhrose and

Courtney Walsh. Over their last 14 Test innings - against Sri Lanka, Pakistan and now England - their average all-out total is a meagre 224. Six times they have fallen for under 200, four times for

they totalled more than 300 and the first Test. He is now 29 and times to choose the wrong shot only Brian Lara, against Sri the selectors have never been for the wrong ball and to waste Lanka in St Vincent last June convinced of his credentials as his talent. and Carl Hooper against Pak- a Test batsman, picking him for istan in Karachi in December only seven Tests over a career have put together individual

Those depressing statistics are compounded by the fail as they have done since the inescapable knowledge that there are no replacements to make a significant difference. Rolland Holder, a well-organised right hander from Barbados, compiled a flawless 183 the batsmen in both Tesis here, against England's attack for

that has now been going more than 10 years.

The openers continued to durable and reliable combination of Gordan Greenidge and Desmond Haynes pairing ended six years ago. Stuart Williams has looked the most accomplished of stroking the ball with sweet tim-

Sherwin Campbell, his little partner, is clearly out of form. He hops around uncertainly from his crease and his feet are leaden. An edged stroke or an lbw verdict have never seemed far away. He was the only one in Pakistan last year to hat with purpose, averaging 40 in the Tests. The selectors will he loathe to discard him especially since the main alternative is Clayton Lambert of Guyana, an

#### YOU BUY IT! colleagues were fully aware of the game. the West Indies A team prior to ing and confidence. But he conleft-hander who is 35 years old. The West Indies were beatunder 250. Only twice have Whether you're new to pipe-smoking Two old soldiers display heroic or an experienced hand, no other THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD pipe cangive you the qualities in the heat of battle complete satisfaction of a Carey pipe. And to prove it to yourself, I GUARANTEE YOU delivery stride. The non-striker, When play ended on the fourth HENRY BLOFELD day, England needed 38 runs to Dean Headley, was out of his **CAN TRY IT BEFORE** win with six wickets in hand. In ground backing up. YOU BUY ITI any other context it would have the start did nothing to settle Walsh pointed at the stumps nerves. The storm that broke been a doddle. But the new ball F.A. CONOU in the time-honoured way to shortly before the umpires were warn Headley not to take an unwas only five overs old, and even in their mid 30s, Curtly Amhrose to come out only heightened the fair advantage. In the heat of the and Courtney Walsh are a devapprehension. moment, it would have been astating pair of fast bowlers. Then, three quarters of an easy to have taken the hails off **OFFER** hour after the scheduled start, In the team hotel on Monand Headley would have had to day night, the hoards of sup-Walsh and Ambrose marked out Choose your pipe have been given out.

ACROSS Cigar that produces flaw-

Hide painting of military ish tone (15) II Month left out to bed

fruit tree (7) 12 A modern centre in Geor- 1 gia shows Pygmalion production (7) 13 Giant steps for mankind in County Antrim (8)

15 Crack up in Middlesex tolerated? (5) 18 Unfashionable old hat.

say (5) Forage for whisky-pot? 23 Risk low where choir sits 7

ful at work? (7) Guarantee programme

that protects one (9.6) 27 English variations leaving Russians rapt, we hear (6) 28 Zip is quicker around Ty-DOWN

Reportedly plays up to zoo favourites (6) Tropical insect, swallowing salt, is slowing down Shows from Venice moving south (7)

What can be drunk in snug? (5) Discharge tar over crack

Some genista in tubs showing blight (5)

17 Eliciting what is instructive when losing heart (8) Deportment of English company in tattoo (7) 21 Announce information retrieved from computer 22 Actor with vibes, possibly

(6) Very musical, as is a 25 Article on volunteers produces letter from Greece

Protective wear in com-

rehensive school? (8)

It drains off water when

royal egg is cooked (8)

Bend on country road in

Lancaster, for example

16 Witnessing a giving by will

porters from England assured each other that England would win. They were whistling to keep up their courage and they knew it. The truth was that everyone feared the worst. Yesterday the breakfast

room was full soon after seven o'clock - unsurprisingly, there were a good many sleepless nights. My lady taxi driver confidently forecast an England victory. None of us in the car believed her cither, and with taut nerves we settled down to watch the last throw in an England second innings which had begun after tea on Saturday it seemed longer ago than that,

Having thrown the second Test away - the West Indies won that match by three wickets there was a strong sense of foreboding that it might happen all over again. A look at Ambrose

their runs. In their different ways, they were both magnificent. Walsh had a lovely rhythm as he ran into bowl and his determination and enthusiasm were extraordinary.

He did not concede a run until his fourth over and the hatsmen were scarcely able to leave a hall alone. He walked back slowly to his mark, polishing the ball on his behind and then waited a few seconds before beginning his run. The gold chain round his neck glinted in the intermittent sun and for eight overs which cost four runs he above his head sending the bowled his heart out. He was

But even so, there was one moment of glorious chivalry which showed why Walsh is held in such respect and which spoke volumes for his character.

Amhrose was more of

primeval force as he raced in at the other end with much less grace than Walsh, hut with bags of fearsome ferocity and two gold chains. He also gave it everything but was unsettled by having to bowl at three lefthanders and his line erred too much down the leg side. Amhrose's appeals, and there were plenty, must have frightened the umpire although three of them were successful. Walsh's appeals were made rather more histrionically, with his hand batsman on his way. The look of disbelief on both their faces when the umpires found against them told of their desperation to bowl out England.

It will not be long before these two old soldiers retire, but He ran into bowl the first ball they have never been more and Walsh warming up before after lunch and stopped in his heroic than they were yesterday.

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لكذا من ألاصل

